

REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF
GAME AND FRESH
WATER FISH

FLORIDA

For Biennium Ending
June 30, 1928

J. B. ROYALL
Commissioner
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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Ptg. Dept.-Fla. Ind. School for Boys, Marianna

FOREWORD

Tallahassee, Florida, December 10, 1928.

PART I—of this report of the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish, for the biennium closing June 30, 1928, covers the activities of the Department during the first year of the period, which activities were in conformity with the law set forth in Chapter 10133, Acts of 1925.

PART II—of this report covers the activities of the Department during the second year of the period, which activities were in conformity with the law set forth in Chapter 11838, Acts of 1927.

The report embraces the two annual reports filed during the period with His Excellency, Governor John W. Martin, edited for this publication.

J. B. ROYALL,

State Game Commissioner.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 1, 1927.

To His Excellency,
John W. Martin,
Governor of the State of Florida.

Sir:

In compliance with the Laws of Florida, Chapter 10133, Section 16, Acts of 1925, I have the honor of transmitting to you, herewith, the Second Annual Report of the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish, State of Florida.

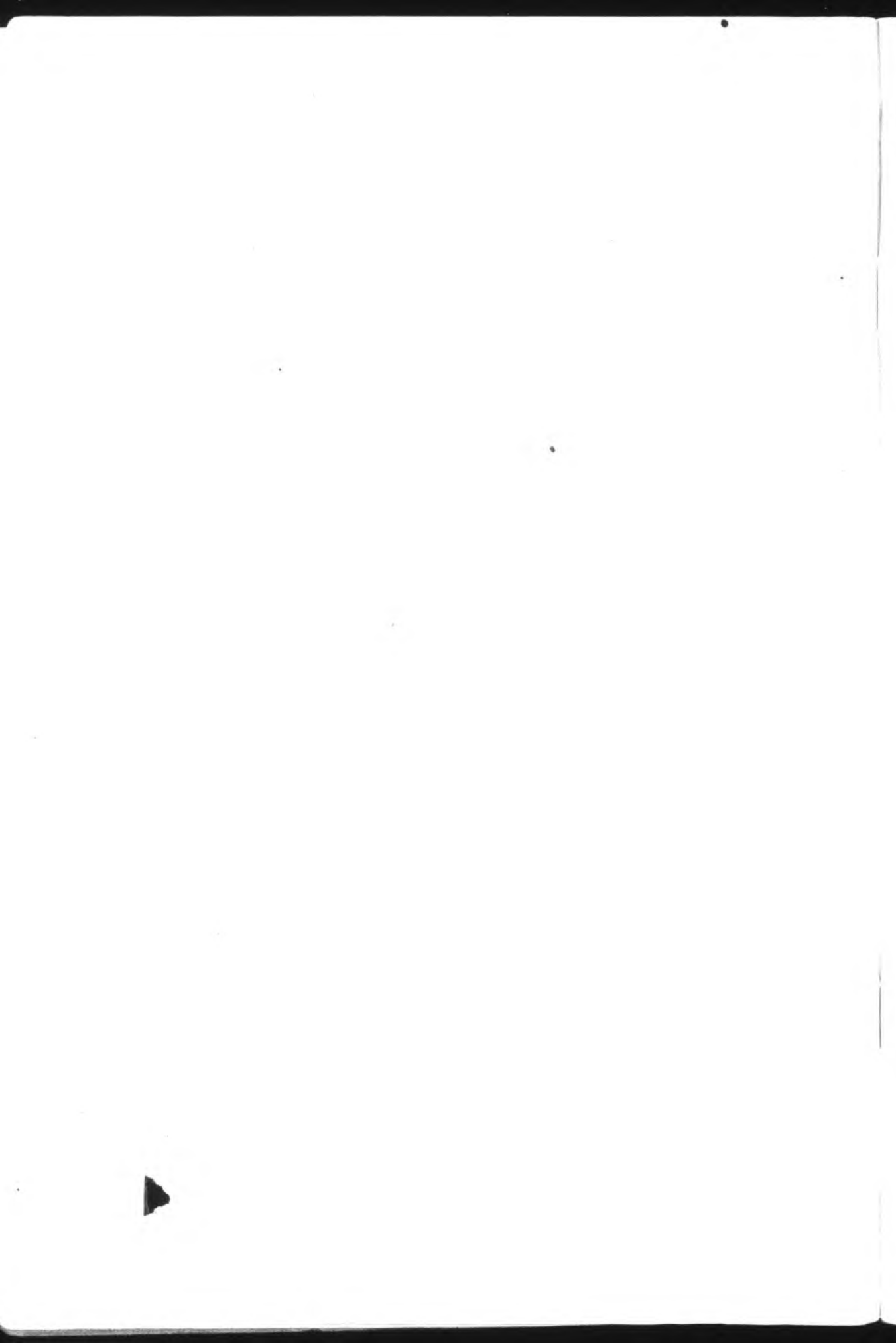
This report covers the work of the Department for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1927.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. ROYALL,

Commissioner.

PART I



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CONSERVATION

"The power to control and regulate the killing and use of game was vested in the Colonial Governments of America and passed with the title to game in its natural condition to the several States as they became sovereign."—Supreme Court of Florida, 1909. (*Harper v Galoway*.)

"All fish in the rivers, bayous, lagoons, lakes, bays, sounds, and inlets bordering on or connected with the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic Ocean, or in the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic Ocean within the jurisdiction of the State of Florida, are hereby declared and shall continue and remain the property of the State of Florida."—(Laws of Florida, Ch. 6877, Sec. 1, Acts 1915.)

The obligation to conserve wild life rests upon the State.

"Conservation means guarding, preserving, and, if possible, enhancing the natural resources of our country that we may enjoy them to best advantage and hand them down unspoiled to our children."—Henry van Dyke.

State and Federal Governments have united their forces to conserve the wild life of America. The enjoyment and use, but not the abuse, of this natural resource is their objective.

CONSERVATION LEGISLATION

All legislation for the conservation of wild life in America rests upon the fact that in this country the title to wild life is vested in the State and not in the individual, that this natural resource belongs to the people as a whole and not to any one individual. Not only does this furnish a foundation for legislation, it places the responsibility for the conservation of wild life upon State and Federal Governments.

The acceptance of this responsibility led to protective legislation back in Colonial days. Twelve of the thirteen original colonies of America had laws regulating the taking of game. States have assumed their responsibility in the matter, each having enacted general laws for the conservation of wild life; and each, with the exception of Mississippi, having created a State Department for the administration of such laws. During the present century the Federal Government has become active in this field of conservation, passing laws for the protection of migratory birds and for other wild life on Federal Reservations.

Conservation legislation by the early colonies and by States reflects the views of the public as to the values of these natural resources.

In pioneer days fish and game were considered of greatest value as an ever ready source of food for the table of the man who took it; while the skins of furbearing animals were esteemed for their warmth when made into garments, or as articles of trade. Early laws sought to conserve these values.

As communities were established and grew fish and game developed a commercial value, being sold in the open market. When fisheries were developed on a large scale the catch became an important commercial product. Laws were then enacted to protect fisheries.

The varied and beautiful bird life, found in abundance throughout the country in early days, attracted the attention of men who were looking for anything

that they might convert into revenue. They took from it a heavy toll converting it into currency in the millinery markets. This traffic continued until public attention was drawn to the depletion of bird life, and laws were enacted forbidding the slaughter of birds for the trade.

In recent years scientists, through research, have added a knowledge of the value of birds to agriculture; and the service which they render by destroying insects has been declared priceless. This has led to the enactment of laws protecting these feathered allies of the farmer.

With the passing of pioneer days and the development of a civilization wherein the organizing of forces and the work of machinery has shortened man's hours of toil, giving him leisure hours to be filled, there has come an appreciation of another value to be found in the wild life of a section; its value as an attraction to wholesome outdoor recreation. The joy and interest which its presence contributes to nature lovers, and the recreational value of the pursuit of game by the hunter, the camper, the fisherman, is everywhere recognized.

The manifold values found in wild life have enlisted the people of America, as a whole, to prevent its destruction. Both State and Federal Governments are committed to its conservation. Under this joint guardianship a State prescribes the policies for that wild life that remains within its bounds throughout the year, while the Federal Government determines the policies affecting migratory bird life, and wild life found on Federal Reservations. As a result of this protection the depletion of wild life has been arrested, and in many sections there is a noticeable increase in its abundance.

Florida was the forty-sixth State to create a State department charged with the enforcement of its laws for the conservation of wild life. Notable progress is being made in its upbuilding.

PROGRESS OF WORK IN FLORIDA

The second fiscal year during which the State Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish has operated

shows progress along the lines of work for which the Department was created. The following are among the results that may be noted:

1. There is an appreciable increase of game in many sections of the State. Some restocking has been done, but the general increase has come largely as the result of protection given native seed stock. It has been obtained notwithstanding the fact that during these two years the number of sportsmen in the field, as evidenced by the number of licenses issued, has exceeded the number for any other period of like duration in the history of the State.

The increase is gratifying both to the sportsmen whose license fees furnished the revenue for financing the Department, and to the people of the State as a whole, to whom the wild life belongs.

2. During the year that has just closed, the Department imported and placed 1,773 quail and 98 wild turkeys for breeding up native stock. Many of the quail released were Mexican bob-whites, (*Colinus v. texanus*.) This bird is a sub-specie of the northern bob-white, (*Colinus v. virginianus*), from which it differs but little in size, color, call notes and habits. It is found to mate freely with the native bird.

The closest observation of results of the interbreeding of these birds with native stock were made and reported by Herbert L. Stoddard, of the U. S. Biological Survey, who is in charge of the Quail Co-operative Investigation that has been under way in Leon and Jefferson Counties during the past three years. Mr. Stoddard found that the Mexican birds apparently cross with the native birds without discrimination, and that the young produced vary so little from the native bird that it would take an expert to distinguish them.

Another matter of interest reported on by Mr. Stoddard are the results of his experiments in artificial breeding of quail. This he found could be successfully done. He finds the few men trained to successfully handle such a project a limiting factor in developing it. "The work is full of pitfalls for the inexperienced and subjects the quail to several captivity diseases which endanger the success of the undertaking," he

states. A comparison of the returns obtained on money invested in adequate protection and in building up the food supply and cover for quail with the returns on money invested in artificial breeding leads Mr. Stoddard to declare better protection and the building up of food supply and cover the practical method, the economical one, to be employed in this section in quail propagation.

3. The efficiency of the service rendered by the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish is shown not only in the increase in wild life in Florida, but by a growing respect on the part of the people for the laws governing seasons, bag limits and licenses. Offenses against such regulations were less frequent during the fiscal year that has just closed than during the fiscal year just preceding. Court records for the fiscal year just closing show a slight increase both in the number of arrests and convictions over those of the preceding year, but during the first year many hundreds of "first offenders" were not taken into court. Because of the confusion arising from the one hundred and thirty local laws which modified locally the general law, the Department used those "first offenses" arising from ignorance of the law as instances for instruction and warning. There has been a marked decrease in cases of this class.

4. The number of convictions secured in the cases taken into court gives evidence of the care with which law violations have been handled. During the first fiscal year, of the 630 cases carried into court, convictions were secured in 546. During the second fiscal year, of the 645 cases carried into court, convictions were secured in 592.

5. In a majority of instances court officials have given whole-hearted co-operation in the enforcement of the law. Penalties, though not excessive, have been sufficient to inspire respect for the law.

6. An increasing number of citizens have organized for the conservation of wild life. The conservation departments of civic organizations have been increasingly active. Schools are giving a prominent place in their program to nature study. Special consideration has been given in the elementary schools of the State

to the study of birds. During the fiscal year just closing a deputy detailed for the work, assisted by a field worker of the Audubon Society, organized in the elementary schools of Florida, 395 bird study clubs with an enrollment of 14,435 members. Uniform material was secured by the teachers of these schools for class-room work, and all possible encouragement was given for field observation and work.

7. Though opinion as to the best method of obtaining desired results, as expressed through the press, often differs, this agency has been strong in its support of the general conservation program of the State.

8. There is a growing appreciation in the rural sections of Florida of the value of bird life to agriculture. This is due in no small part to the work of the press and to the bird study clubs in the schools. Every effort has been made to develop co-operation between the farmer and the sportsman. This is essential if best results are to be obtained. Graphic exhibits showing the value of birds as defenders of Florida's truck crops have been prepared and used at fairs.

9. Every effort has been made to protect plumage birds in Florida. The high value of the plumes of the egret make it necessary that these birds be constantly guarded. Deputies of this Department have co-operated with deputies of the Federal Bureau in this work.

10. The U. S. Biological Survey has rendered valuable assistance to the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish by making readily available information accumulated through its researches over a wide field during many years. The Department has been able to use much of this effectively in Florida.

Florida provides feeding and breeding grounds for a greater number of species of water birds than does any other State. Many of these are classed as migratory. National policies effecting these are of special interest to the State. The appointment of Florida's State Game Commissioner as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, a national committee of fifteen provided for in the Act, appointment to membership on the Committee being made

by the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, brings the State in direct touch with Federal policies for the protection of migratory bird life.

11. Incomplete returns from trappers indicate increases in the number of fur-bearing animals taken during the past season. This is confirmed by general reports from many sections of the State. There was a considerable increase in the value of the pelts. This was due, in part, to the wide demand for furs in this country, in part, to the fact that during the past two years trapping in Florida has been permitted during winter months only, the season when fur is in prime condition.

12. Florida has the most extensive black bass fisheries to be found in the United States. In the more than 30,000 lakes and innumerable streams of the State are to be found not only bass, but many other species of game fish. The protection of the fish in Florida's vast fresh-water area is one of the major problems of the Department. The provisions of the law for the conservation of fresh-water fish are inadequate, and the finances for law enforcement, derived solely from the license fees of hunters and trappers, have been insufficient to afford the protection which the fish in these waters need if their supply is to be maintained. Notwithstanding this, the Department has succeeded largely in clearing streams and lakes of traps, seines and other illegal devices, and of giving such other protection as the law authorizes. A growing appreciation on the part of the public not only of the food and commercial value of fresh-water fish, but of their value as an attraction to those who love the sport and a day in the open, found in the trail of the fisherman, has brought co-operation on the part of local people in efforts to protect this resource. Under the law just enacted more can be accomplished.

13. Prior to the convening of the Legislature in the 1927 session, the Department made every effort to place before the people of the State a proposed program of legislation for the conservation of wild life, and to get from the people of the State suggestions in regard to the same.

To obtain this a letter containing the proposed program was sent to each chamber of commerce in the State, to each civic club the address of which was available, to each Woman's Club, to each member of the Legislature and to each newspaper with the request that the paper publish. Endorsement of the program suggested came from every source. Adverse criticism or protest was conspicuously lacking. With such endorsement the Department used every effort to have the program enacted into law.

A copy of the letter mailed out by the Department follows:

"Knowing the interest which your organization has in the welfare of Florida, I am writing to ask the co-operation of your membership in securing the enactment of laws for the better protection of one of the State's greatest assets, its native wild life.

Since the founding of the State the abundant wild life to be found here has furnished choice food for home tables, and fish taken from the fresh waters of the State have furnished a source of income for many. The economic value of the work performed by birds in their destruction of insects in this State cannot be estimated, while their presence in abundance lends interest to life on every hand. Hunting and fishing have annually attracted to the State thousands of visitors of a desirable class. Today citizens and visitors, alike, go in increasing numbers to the open in pursuit of these wholesome forms of recreation.

Florida's vast area, 51,056 square miles of land, 3,805 square miles of fresh waters, its 30,000 lakes and numerous streams, its coast 2,276 miles in extent, its abundant native food supply, its favorable climatic conditions afford unexcelled breeding grounds for wild life, and offer vast refuges for migratory birds. Notwithstanding these natural advantages the heavy drain put upon the supply is reducing the reserve. Today it is in far greater jeopardy than ever before.

This condition comes as a result of rapidly increasing population, the almost universal ownership of automobiles, the possession of hundreds of motor boats, the increased killing power of fire-arms, the opening up of

every section of the State by the fast developing system of good roads, the increasing mileage in canals, the resulting drainage of vast areas, and the cutting away of timber. All combine to reduce the protection heretofore given wild life, while good roads, automobiles, canals and motor boats bring the haunts and breeding grounds of game within easy access of those who hunt and fish. These conditions make better protection imperative if the wild life of the State is to be preserved.

As a means of providing this better protection your State Game Commissioner advocates the following program:

Bag limits should be reduced.

Open seasons should be shortened.

Areas should be set aside as permanent breeding grounds for game and fresh water fish.

A closed season for fish at spawning time should be provided.

The legal minimum lengths at which fresh water fish may be taken should be increased sufficiently to protect fish until they are large enough to have spawned at least once before being taken.

The sale and shipment of Black Bass should be prohibited.

A reasonable limit should be placed upon the number of fresh water fish that a person may take in a day.

Depleted areas should be restocked.

Provision for restocking should be made by the establishment of a state game farm and fresh water fish hatcheries.

Section 11 of Chapter 10133, Acts of 1925, which provides that all money to the credit of the Game Fund in excess of \$10,000 at the close of each fiscal year shall be transferred to the General Fund or General School Fund of the State, leaves the Game Fund depleted at a time when young game needs protection. The section should be repealed.

General protective measures should be made uniform in effect throughout the State.

Increased protection for greatly depleted areas should be provided through the enactment of a general measure applicable alike to all such areas in the State.

The trapping law should be revised as to season and license fees.

Increased revenue should be provided.

Florida is operating under a general law which provides that no local law in conflict therewith shall be repealed or modified by the provisions of the general law. As a result there are more than one hundred and sixty local laws, one hundred and thirty of which are in conflict with the general law, in effect in the State. These serve as so many amendments to the general law. The difficulty of enforcing such a law is apparent. Florida needs a general law state-wide in effect as well as in name.

The Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish is self-sustaining, being financed through the sale of licenses. From this source it has returned to the State Treasury the \$35,000 loaned by act of the 1925 Legislature to finance the initial operations of the Department. Funds, however, have not been sufficient to maintain an adequate force in the field; nor will they permit, even in a small measure, the restocking of depleted areas.

Revenue could be materially increased by the sale, at small cost, of a resident fishing license, and by requiring all commercial fish dealers selling fresh water fish to procure from the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish a license for handling.

At present, revenue is derived almost exclusively from licenses sold to hunters, trappers and non-resident fishermen. Your State Game Commissioner believes that resident fishermen and commercial fish dealers who handle fresh water fish should bear a proportionate part of the cost of protection given the wild life of the State.

The wild life of Florida has come to the present generation as a heritage. It is due the boys and girls of the coming generation that it be preserved as such for them. The proposed program which has this end in view is based not only upon a year and a half spent in intensive work in this field, and upon the experience of other states in the handling of similar problems, but upon a life-long interest in the matter. It is offered for your consideration, and with the request that if the program is consistent with your views, you help to promote it. With your help Florida can be made the nation's greatest hunting and fishing ground. Will you give this help as individuals and as an organization?

Respectfully,

J. B. ROYALL,
Commissioner."

Sharp opposition to the bill as originally introduced developed both in House and Senate, and it was held in committee until near the close of the session. A substitute Committee Bill was offered and passed the House and the Senate by large majorities.

Like all legislation the measure is a compromise, but it is interesting to note in its provisions that the program, so generally endorsed prior to the convening of the Legislature by individuals, organizations and the press of the State, is embodied in the law as the following analysis of the two will show:

1. From the proposed program, "Bag Limits Should Be Reduced."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

A day's bag limit on ducks was reduced, 25 to 15.
A day's bag limit on quail was reduced, 20 to 15.
A day's bag limit on geese was reduced, 8 to 5.
A day's bag limit on brant was reduced, 8 to 5.
A day's bag limit on snipe was reduced, 25 to 15.
A day's bag limit on coots was reduced, 25 to 20.
A day's bag limit on gallinule reduced, 25 to 15.
A day's bag limit on rail was reduced, 25 to 15.
A day's bag limit on woodcock reduced, 6 to 0.
A day's bag limit on cat squirrel, fixed at 15.

Bag limits on deer unchanged, bucks only to be killed.
 Bag limits on turkey unchanged, but hunting with dogs forbidden.

A season's bag limit on all game other than deer and turkey reduced, 300 to 200.

2. From the proposed program, "Open Seasons Should be shortened."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

Season on deer reduced from 87 to 53 days, bucks only.

Season on doe closed until November 20, 1932.

Season on turkey reduced from 87 to 72 days.

Season on squirrel reduced from 87 to 72 days.

Season woodcock closed.

Seasons on rails and marsh hens lengthened from November 20—November 30, to September 15—November 30.

3. From the proposed program, "Areas Should Be Set Aside As Permanent Breeding Grounds for Game and Fresh Water Fish."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

Authorization for establishing game refuges and breeding grounds is given; provision is made for acquiring State Game Lands; a State Wild Life Commission to aid in the development of these projects was created.

4. From the proposed program, "A Closed Season for Fish at Spawning Time Should be Provided."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

A closed season on fresh-water fish from March 15—May 15, inclusive, is established.

5. From the proposed program, "The legal minimum lengths at which fresh-water fish may be taken should be increased sufficiently to protect fish until large enough to have spawned at least once before being taken."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

Minimum legal lengths were increased: Black Bass from 11 inches to 12 inches; Bream from 4 inches to

5 inches; Speckled Perch remains at 7; specification on catfish repealed.

6. From the proposed program, "The sale of Black Bass should be prohibited."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

The sale of black bass is prohibited, with exception of those taken from Lake Okeechobee, the St. Johns River as far as Volusia Bar including Doctors Lake, Lake George; Suwannee River to East and West Passes; Lakes Crescent, Kissimmee, Jackson, Marion, Lizzie and Alligator.

7. From the proposed program, "A reasonable limit should be placed upon the number of fresh-water fish that a person may take in a day."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

A day's bag limit on the different species of fresh-water fish was fixed as follows: Black bass, 12; bream, 30; speckled perch, 30; shell-cracker, 30; jack, 15; warmouth perch, 30; red-breasted perch, 30; any other species of bream, 30; pike, 30; mixed string of any and all species, 40.

8. From the proposed program, "Depleted areas should be restocked. Provision for restocking should be made by the establishment of a State Game Farm and fresh-water fish hatcheries."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

The Department is authorized to establish a State Game Farm and fresh-water fish hatcheries.

9. From the proposed program—

"Section 11 of Chapter 10133, Acts of 1925, which provides that all money to the credit of the Game Fund in excess of \$10,000 at the close of each fiscal year, shall be transferred to the General Fund or General School Fund of the State,—should be repealed.

Under the law enacted in 1927, Section 11 of Chapter 10133, Acts of 1925 was repealed.

10. From the proposed program, "General protective measures should be made uniform throughout the State."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

All local laws were repealed and the general game law was made effective throughout the State.

11. From the proposed program, "Increased protection for greatly depleted areas should be provided through the enactment of a general measure, applicable alike to all such areas in the State."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

Provision is made for closing temporarily areas where wild life has been greatly depleted by fire, storm or otherwise.

12. From the proposed program, "The trapping law should be revised as to seasons and license fees."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

A closed season on fur-bearing animals was provided and trapper's license fees revised.

13. From the proposed program, "Increased revenues should be provided."

Under the law enacted in 1927—

The license fees for trapping were so revised as to produce greater revenue. A license fee for residents who fish in the fresh-waters of the State, outside of the county in which said resident resides, is required. A county and State non-resident license fee for fishing in the fresh waters of the State is required.

The foregoing gives, in brief, a parallel between the proposed program broadcast throughout the State prior to the convening of the Legislature of 1927, and of the law enacted during the session of 1927.

The opposition which the enactment of this law encountered, as pet measures crumbled and the State passed from legislation for game protection by county units to legislation for conservation of wild life that is state-wide in effect, the Department hopes to convert to support. The fact that the program received endorsement that was state-wide leads to the belief that this is possible.

FIELD ORGANIZATION

In developing the field organization, operative for the year, the four districts of the State were divided in September into five. As the hunting season progressed these were subdivided until in December they numbered 15.

Assistant Commissioners, whose duties included the usual duties of a deputy, were assigned to supervise these districts. These district men form the permanent nucleus of the field organization, for the number of county deputies must necessarily vary with the season, the force being largely increased during open hunting and trapping seasons.

A summarized statement of the employment of deputies and assistant commissioners, of the miles traveled by them in the discharge of their duties, and the cost of the same follows:

NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED, MILEAGE AND COST OF TRAVEL JULY 1, 1926, JUNE 30, 1927

Month	Deputies	Mileage	Amount Paid	Assistant Commissioners	Mileage	Amount Paid
July	29	37,905	\$ 1,525.51	4	10,267	\$ 650.00
August	36	41,462	2,062.98	4	9,803	650.00
September	51	52,709	2,606.95	5	11,815	714.00
October	85	90,626	3,941.71	7	12,710	781.89
November	127	145,811	7,830.58	14	27,449	1,931.66
December	127	150,912	7,677.04	15	27,788	2,142.08
January	100	110,861	7,417.63	15	24,781	2,076.55
February	103	77,997	4,012.92	15	25,036	2,032.14
March	63	81,771	3,317.13	14	25,276	1,650.00
April	60	81,273	3,233.47	13	21,297	1,475.00
May	63	77,063	3,153.97	13	22,677	1,475.00
June	53	84,565	2,932.80	15	27,698	1,990.54
Totals		1,033,525	\$49,712.69		246,597	\$17,567.97*

*Amount includes hotel bills allowed Assistant Commissioners. Total paid in salaries to deputies and assistant commissioners—\$102,179.37.

State Game Commissioner--Mileage, 21,104; expense \$1,903.63; salary \$4,500.00.

With an area nearly as large as is that of the New England States, and a climate that makes it possible for a person to remain comfortably in the open throughout the year, Florida needs a large number of men in the field for police duty if the wild life of the State is to be given adequate protection.

This necessitates the expenditure of the greater part of the revenue available, for such service.

A summary of receipts and disbursements follows:

RECEIPTS

July 1st, 1926, June 30th, 1927

Balance to credit of Game Fund July 1, 1926	\$ 35,974.16
Revenue from sale of licenses, court costs, interest	195,898.40
Total	<hr/> \$231,872.56

DISBURSEMENTS

July 1st, 1926, June 30th, 1927

Salaries, Commissioner and Deputies, and Assistant Commissioners	\$106,679.37
Salaries, Office Force	10,545.00
Office supplies, printing licenses, express, postage, etc.	4,558.42
Travel, Deputies and Assistant Commissioners	61,472.04
Travel, State Commissioner	1,903.63
Field Equipment	3,636.56
Game for restocking	5,332.92
Motion pictures	2,093.54
Loan from General Fund repaid	35,000.00
Total	<hr/> \$231,221.48

"REPORT OF AUDIT OF THE OFFICE OF THE
STATE GAME AND FRESH-WATER FISH
COMMISSIONER AS OF JUNE 30, 1927

Tallahassee, Fla., September 30, 1927.

Hon. W. V. Knott,
State Auditor,
Capitol.

Dear Sir:

I submit report of an examination of the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish covering the period JJuly 1, 1926, to June 30, 1927, both dates inclusive:

SALES COMMERCIAL FISH DEALERS LICENSES

License numbers used, Nos. 701 to 1291—Total	
issued	591
Cancellations (originals on hand)	21
	<hr/>
Net Licenses used	570

* 21 Wholesale licenses at \$50.00 each	\$1,050.00
549 Retail licenses at \$5.00 each.....	2,745.00

*NOTE: \$5.00 returned check on hand for license No. 761, Cashier's check on Bank of Okeechobee, (bank closed).

Left over blanks from Auditor's last report all found on hand unused—Nos. 456 to 700 and 438 to 450. These being old form and of no further use were destroyed.

On hand unused for current year—Nos. 1292 to 1951. Also destroyed, new forms being used.

SALES COMMERCIAL BOAT LICENSES

License numbers issued—Nos. 701 to 1442. Total	
issued	742
Cancellations (originals on hand)	11
	<hr/>
Net licenses used	731

2, Alien licenses	\$ 20.10
* 18 Licenses where length and beam of boat required additional charge	24.50
711 Issued at \$1.00 each	711.00
<hr/> 731	<hr/> \$755.60

*Refund made by office check for \$2.00 in October.
License and boat lost immediately after issue, ac-
count September storm.

Left over blanks as shown by auditor's last report
all found on hand unused—Nos. 534 to 550, 568 to 600,
607 to 700. These being old forms were destroyed.

On hand unused for current year Nos. 1443 to 2000.
These were destroyed, new forms being used this year.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS COURT COSTS

Fees and mileage of Deputy Commissioners remitted
to Department and deposited in Treasury under Sec-
tion 14, Chapter 10133, Acts of 1925—\$2,819.75.

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS

Refund on Title Certificate	\$ 1.00
1 pair field glasses sold	21.00
Sale of Quail for stocking purposes	281.00
Sale of Quail for stocking purposes	66.50
Sale of Quail for stocking purposes	87.50
Sale of outboard motor at cost	200.00
	<hr/> \$657.00

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES SOLD BY OFFICE

These licenses were sold by the office as an accom-
modation to the Leon County Judge and the monies
received deposited to the Treasurer, the fees being
paid the Judge.

Licenses sold—\$1,282.00.

HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING LICENSES (Issued by County Judges)

Counties	1926-1927 Licenses Sold	1927 Fishing Licenses Sold (Reported)	Totals	Balances Due from Judges	Refunds Due to Judges
Alachua	\$ 3,898.00	\$ 192.00	\$ 4,090.00	\$.....	\$.....
Baker	482.00	None	482.00	.....	.....
Bay	969.00	411.00	1,380.00	.....	.....
Bradford	571.00	None	571.00	.....	4.00
Brevard	3,343.00	198.00	3,541.00	.....	3.00
Broward	1,476.00	4.00	1,480.00	.....	.....
Calhoun	613.00	62.00	675.00	.....	.....
Charlotte	1,416.00	None	1,416.00	.....	.....
Citrus	2,492.00	420.00	2,912.00	72.00	.....
Clay	814.00	24.00	838.00	.....	.....
Collier	430.00	None	430.00	.....	.....
Columbia	1,246.00	None	1,246.00	.....	.....
Dade	7,617.00	151.00	7,768.00	.....	2.00
DeSoto	2,661.00	20.00	2,681.00	.....	.....
Dixie	1,572.00	None	1,572.00	94.00	.....
Duval	12,902.00	47.00	12,949.00	.....	.....
Escambia	2,387.00	None	2,387.00	.....	1.00
Flagler	884.00	24.00	908.00	.....	.....
Franklin	518.00	51.00	569.00	.....	.....
Gadsden	1,618.00	30.00	1,648.00	.....	.....
Glades	383.00	None	383.00	42.00	.....
Gilchrist	652.00	60.00	712.00	1.00	.....
Gulf	1,187.00	20.00	1,207.00	.....	.....
Hamilton	597.00	6.00	603.00	.....	4.00
Hardee	1,967.00	None	1,967.00	.....	.....
Hendry	2,569.00	15.00	2,584.00	160.40	.....
Hernando	1,921.00	31.00	1,952.00	73.00	.....
Highlands	1,871.00	5.00	1,876.00	10.00	.....
Hillsborough	17,377.00	52.00	17,429.00	.....	.....
Holmes	644.00	None	644.00	.....	.....
Indian River	741.00	43.00	784.00	.....	0.25
Jackson	937.00	70.00	1,007.00	.....	3.00
Jefferson	3,474.00	573.00	4,047.00	.....	.....
Lafayette	752.00	None	752.00	.....	.....
Lake	4,692.00	1,235.00	5,927.00	1.00	.....
Lee	3,970.00	7.00	3,977.00	.....	8.00
Leon	8,006.00	711.00	8,717.00	17.00	.....

HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING LICENSES— (Continued)

Counties	1926-1927 Licenses Sold	1927 Fishing Licenses Sold (Reported)	Totals	Balances Due from Judges	Refunds Due to Judges
Levy	3,850.00	15.00	3,865.00	.....	27.00
Liberty	981.00	None	981.00	.....	9.00
Madison	1,294.00	153.00	1,447.00	.....	.....
Manatee	3,408.00	5.00	3,413.00	.....	.....
Marion	4,025.00	173.00	4,198.00	.....	.....
Monroe	37.00	None	37.00	.....	.....
Martin	868.00	5.00	873.00	.....	.....
Nassau	761.00	None	761.00	.....	6.00
Okeechobee	2,033.00	None	2,033.00	.....	.....
Orange	7,206.00	557.00	7,763.00	.....	.....
Okaloosa	949.00	None	952.00	.....	.....
Bal. due from last year	3.00				
Osceola	1,914.00	117.00	2,031.00	.....	.....
Palm Beach ..	4,265.00	21.00	4,286.00	.....	.....
Pasco	3,269.00	32.00	3,301.00	.....	.....
Pinellas	5,422.00	26.00	5,448.00	.....	.....
Polk	9,569.00	94.00	9,663.00	.....	10.00
Putnam	2,740.00	183.00	2,923.00	.....	.....
Santa Rosa ..	1,054.00	None	1,054.00	.....	1.00
Sarasota	3,055.00	29.00	3,084.00	.....	7.00
Seminole	3,624.00	25.00	3,649.00	25.65	.....
St. Johns	2,485.00	None	2,485.00	.....	24.00
St. Lucie	1,547.00	15.00	1,562.00	18.00	.....
Sumter	2,357.00	79.00	2,436.00	.....	.....
Suwannee	1,224.00	7.00	1,231.00	1.00	.....
Taylor	2,836.00	239.00	3,075.00	.....	.....
Union	225.00	None	225.00	.....	.....
Volusia	6,341.00	209.00	6,550.00	.....	.....
Wakulla	1,466.00	69.00	1,535.00	.....	58.00
Walton	1,161.00	None	1,161.00	.....	.....
Washington ..	644.00	None	644.00	.....	9.00
Totals	\$180,262.00	\$ 6,515.00	\$186,777.00	\$518.00	\$176.25
Paid to Judge in October					58.00
					\$118.25

The above shows a total of \$186,777.00 of licenses sold, of which \$518.05 is still due from certain of the officials, due apparently to oversights by them in making their reports. \$176.25 of over-payments were received by the Department, of which \$58.00 was refunded last October, the balance still being on hand to be refunded.

Hunting, fishing and trapping license blanks on hand, unused, shown below, being old form were destroyed. All blanks and stubs returned by the judges have been kept intact. All license blanks accounted for except blanks issued to some of the judges which have not been returned. Notations were made on the office records and the office requested to write and make another request of the judges for the return of these:

C2701.
 C12701 to 15500.
 C11501 to 12000.
 O681 to 1000.
 E801 to 1000.
 P981 to 1000.
 A54401 to 55000.
 B9401 to 10000
 N10451 to 10500 and 10651 to 12000.
 D1781 to 2000.

SUMMARY

Collections, disbursements and Funds on Hand

Balance on hand due State	
Treasurer July 1, 1926	\$ 1.25
Collected from Court Costs	2,819.75
Licenses sold by office for	
Leon County Judge	1,282.00
Miscellaneous Collections	657.00
Interest from Bank on de-	
posits	329.22
Sale Commercial Fish Deal-	
er's Licenses	3,795.00
Sale Commercial Boat Li-	
censes	755.60

Collections from County Judges (sale of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses)	186,435.20	
Collections from Judges on balances due as of June 30, 1926 (all collections made except \$3.00—see last report)	34.00	
Miscellaneous collections (not itemized—sales of stamps, etc.)	9.65	
Collected from W. S. Cooper for licenses issued in July	18.00	
Fees collected for Leon County Judge	60.25	
Refund paid Judge Wakulla County—Oct. 1926		58.00
Refunds due other Judges as of June 30, 1927		118.25
Refund boat license in Oct.		2.00
By deposits to State Treasurer (verified from Treasurer's books)		195,898.40
Returned check on hand (cashier's check, bank closed)		5.00
Due Leon County Judge for fees		60.25
Funds held for July license account		18.00
Due to State Treasurer		37.02
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$196,196.92	\$196,196.92

FUNDS ON HAND JUNE 30, 1927

Balance Lewis State Bank June 30, 1927	\$ 1,533.52	
Outstanding checks to State Treasurer		\$ 1,300.00
Refunds due County Judges		118.25
Due Leon County Judge for fees		60.25

Collections — held for July license account	16.00
Due to State Treasurer	37.02
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,533.52 \$ 1,533.52

REFUNDS DUE not shown in above statements.
Funds collected and deposited in Treasury, upon which
refunds are due.

Sebastian Land Co.—check received and de- posited for shipment of quail which were not delivered. Refund due	\$ 87.50
C. H. Douglas—Licenses No. 1271, wholesale Fresh-Water Fish Dealers License (issued in error)	50.00
C. H. Douglas—License No. 1272, retail Fresh- Water Fish Dealers License (issued in error)	5.00
C. H. Douglas—License No. 1415, resident boat license (issued in error)	1.00
	<hr/>
	\$143.50

Mr. Douglas was issued licenses for the period clos-
ing July 1, 1927, whereas he should have received
licenses for the period beginning July 1, 1927, as shown
by correspondence from the office deputy on file in
office. The licenses issued in error have been returned
for cancellation, but as the \$56.00 received was de-
posited by the office to the Treasury for the fiscal year
just closed, notation is made hereof credit due the
Department on this year's accounts for licenses issued
to correct the error.

The Sebastian Land Company deposited check for
delivery of quail which were not shipped, but check
was deposited by the Department with other collections
to the State Treasurer, the office being under the im-
pression that the agency was making the shipment.
Deduction should be made from next remittance to
Treasurer in order that this refund can be made the
Sebastian Land Co.

The accounts and records of the office are kept in a
very satisfactory manner, and it should be noted that
not only have all receipts from sales of licenses, etc.,

been accounted for, but also all miscellaneous collections, and that the office has also secured interest on temporary bank deposits in the amount of \$329.22, which together with other receipts have been promptly deposited in the Treasury.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNARD LUNING,
Assistant State Auditor."

Florida has been called the sun-parlor of America.

As inviting as is a sun-parlor to those who wish to bask in a flood of sunlight filtered through protecting glass, the appeal of the out-doors to red-blooded youth and vigorous manhood is greater. Florida is an out-door State.

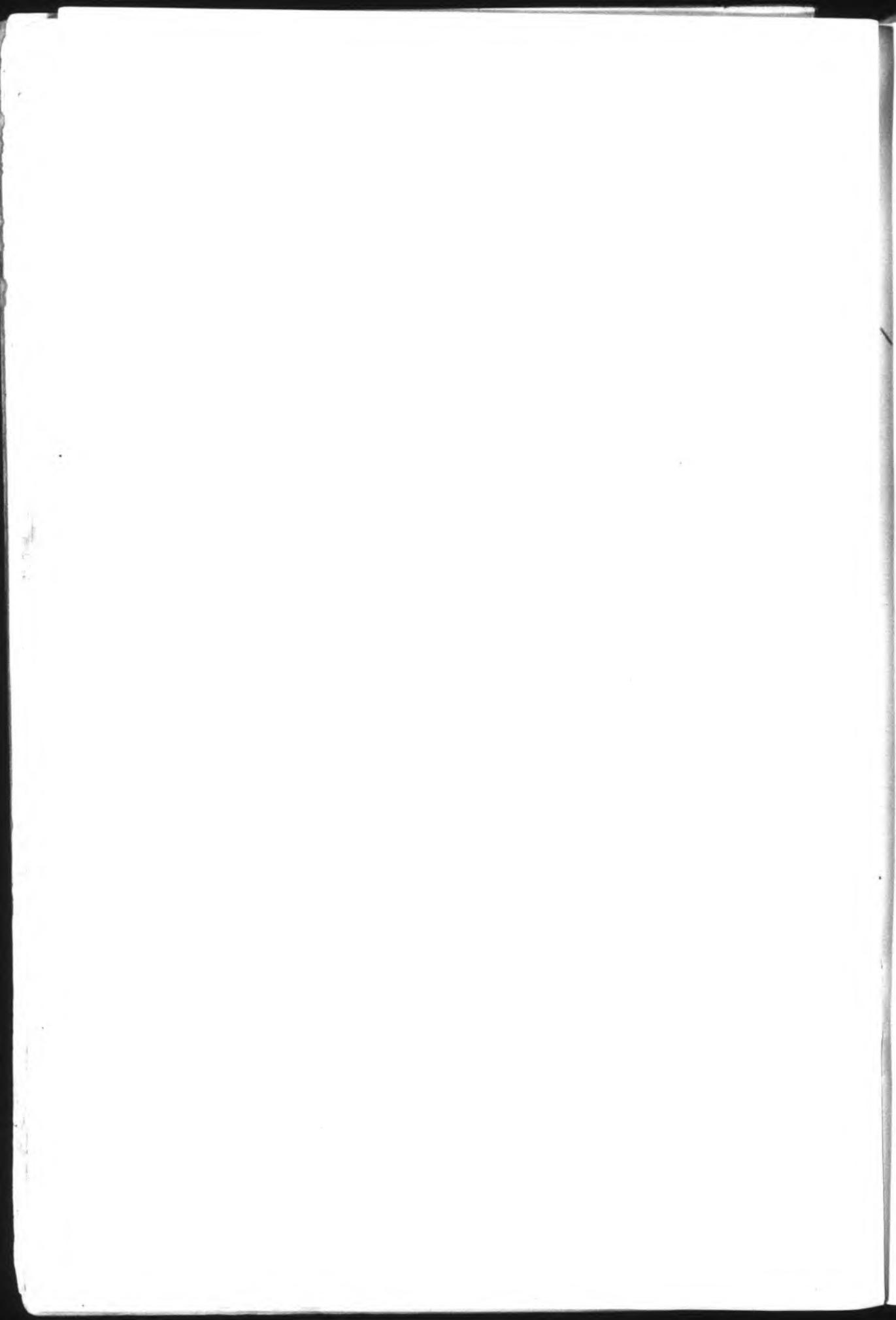
With a topography that varies from the vast stretches of the everglades and jungle lands to open pine flats, rolling sand dunes, rich hammock lands and red clay hills, and which is embellished with numerous streams and more than thirty thousand lakes, bordered as it is, on the east by the Atlantic, on the west by the Gulf of Mexico, with a climate that makes of each day an invitation to come into the open, Florida can boast of life in the open at its best.

Not the least of the attraction that this life in the open has to offer is the heritage of a varied wild life. About forty per cent. of the trees native to the United States are native to Florida, says Wilbur Mattoon of the U. S. Forestry Service, (200 species out of 500). To this number have been added through naturalization approximately another hundred species brought from other sections of this country and from foreign lands it is claimed by other authorities. Three thousand species of wild flowers, it is said have been identified as native to the State. Four hundred and ten species of birds have been identified within the State. Six hundred and fifty species of fish are found in Florida waters. Various species of game and fur-bearing animals are found in all sections of the State.

This abundant wild life came to the people of this State as a heritage, to be enjoyed and then passed on to coming generations. If it is to be maintained in any-

thing like its native abundance, selfish desire will have to be laid aside, prejudice forgotten and the efforts of the people of the State united for its conservation.

To this end the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish is bending its every energy.



PART II

Tallahassee, Fla., July 1, 1928.

To His Excellency,
John W. Martin,
Governor of the State of Florida.

Sir:

In compliance with the Laws of Florida, Chapter 11838, Section 11, Acts of 1927, I have the honor of transmitting to you, herewith, the Third Annual Report of the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish, State of Florida.

This report covers the work of the Department for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1928.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. ROYALL,
Commissioner.

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Cycle of a Century in Game Legislation in Florida

- 1828—Fire-hunting west of the Suwannee River prohibited, (effective Jan. 1).
Fire-hunting throughout Territory prohibited, (effective Nov. 22).
- 1832—Damming of navigable streams so as to prevent the passage of fish up stream for period of more than twenty-four hours, prohibited.
- 1851—Camp hunting regulated in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties.
- 1859—Sunday hunting prohibited.
- 1866—Permit for hunting on lands of another required.
- 1875—Non-resident hunting license for each county—fee \$25.00—required.
- 1877—Plumage birds protected, destruction of nest, eggs and young prohibited.
- 1877—Permit to fish or hunt on land of another required.
- 1877—Open season for hunting deer fixed, September 1st—April 1st.
- 1893—Non-export of game law enacted.
- 1893—Protection of shad in spawning season, December 1st to April 1st, provided.
- 1895—Bag limit on turkey fixed—Florida first State to enact such law.
- 1895—Sale of venison outside of county in which taken prohibited.
- 1895—Seining, stop-netting, gill-netting, or netting of any kind, gigging, dynamiting, taking of fish by set devices, prohibited.
- 1897—Hauling of seins or nets in fresh-waters between May 1st and November 1st prohibited.
- 1897—Employment of county game wardens authorized.
- 1901—Enactment of "A. O. U. Law," a law sponsored by the American Ornithological Union for the protection of non-game birds.
- 1903—Creation in Florida of first federal bird reservation. (First in United States.)
- 1903—Sale of wild deer, of venison and of hides prohibited.

- 1913—A State Department of Game and Fish created.
- 1915—Department of Game and Fish abolished, Shell Fish Commission created.
- 1917—Fifteen local laws for protection of game and fresh-water fish passed.
- 1919—Twenty-eight local laws protecting game and fresh-water fish enacted.
- 1921—Thirty-eight local laws protecting game and fresh-water fish enacted.
- 1923—Sixty local laws protecting game and fresh-water fish enacted.
- 1925—Thirty-six local laws protecting game and fresh-water fish enacted. Law creating Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish passed, leaving in effect 130 local laws which were in conflict with general law.
- 1927—Law creating Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish re-written. All local laws repealed.

CONSERVATION

The need for the conservation of the native wild life of a State, the wisdom of making provision for this need, are facts seldom called in question; best methods of attaining the desired end, however, are often matters of controversy.

The very nature of the task undertaken, namely, the building up of the wild life of the State while at the same time the same agency licenses men to capture or destroy it, serves to complicate the problem. The desires of men on pleasure bent and the limitations as to seasons and bag limits and the requirements as to licenses, are frequently in conflict. In view of this fact the difficulty of making and enforcing laws that shall give due consideration to all interests involved, is readily apparent.

Difficult though the task may be, it is one, that because of values involved, no State can afford to neglect. Forty-seven of the States have created departments charged with the conservation of wild life.

States, without exception, have developed their program of work through three well defined channels, namely: education, protection, propagation. It is generally conceded by those who have had the responsibility of directing the conservation work of the several States that to neglect any one of the three lines of work is to retard, if not to defeat in part, the object in view.

Florida's plan of work has provided for the three.

EDUCATION

Believing that information as to the varied species of birds, animals and fresh-water fish to be found in Florida, their value to the State and their need of protection, if a sufficient seed-stock was to be saved to guarantee the maintaining of the desired supply, would, if widely disseminated, go far toward securing necessary co-operation in the work, the Department of Game

and Fresh Water Fish has neglected no opportunity to carry such information to the public.

This has been done largely through the following channels:

First: The State Game Commissioner has not failed wherever opportunity has offered to present these values and needs direct, both to individuals and to organizations.

Second: Deputies of the Department have rendered a continuous service along this line during their personal contacts with the people of the State.

Third: Sportsmen, as individuals, and in organizations, have rendered a valuable service in acquainting the public with the facts regarding the need for conservation and the work that is being done.

Fourth: A moving picture, 10,000 feet in length, showing the native wild life of the State in its accustomed haunts, was made and carried by a representative of the Department direct to the people. The original showing of this film was at the Florida State Fair, at Jacksonville in November, 1927. During a period of twelve months, dating from that time, the picture has been shown in 76 cities and towns of Florida. As nearly as it has been possible to record it, the number who have seen the picture total 472,000. Of this number, 100,000, in round numbers, have seen the picture at points other than at fairs, which means that they have seen it in its entirety.

Requests for a repetition of the showing at points where the picture has been seen, indicates the interest that it has aroused. Requests from out-of-State for a loan of the picture tell the distance to which the story has extended.

That others might know more of this great resource which the picture portrays, on urgent request, it was loaned in Connecticut for a series of showings, and in Illinois for a similar purpose. It has been shown in part in the City of New York; and has served as a part of the exhibit sent by the State Department of Agriculture to Des Moines to advertise Florida at the Iowa State Fair. Had a second copy of the film been avail-

able it could have been kept in practically constant circulation beyond the bounds of Florida ,so numerous have the requests from the outside for its showing been.

Fifth: Exhibits, representing a cross section of Florida wild life were prepared. These included: live and mounted specimens of wild birds and animals; an aquarium exhibit of Florida's chief species of game fresh water fish; a full line of pelts from fur-bearing animals; a special exhibit based on the economic value of Florida birds as defenders against the insect pests of Florida's \$60,000,000 truck crop; the moving pictures above referred to; transparencies showing some of Florida's wild beauty spots; and a small but carefully selected nature library offered as a suggestion to those who are interested in acquiring books of this type. These were placed during the 1927-28 fair season at the Florida State Fair at Jacksonville; the South Florida Fair at Tampa; the Manatee County Fair, Bradenton; the Florida Central Exposition, Orlando. Assistance was given at the fair held at Everglades at the time of the opening of the Tamiami Trail. On request of the Secretary of the Florida Educational Association a special exhibit of material of interest to teachers of nature study in Florida schools, was placed at Tampa in the exhibit hall at Tampa during the annual meeting of the Association, December 26-29, 1927.

These exhibits were planned and supervised by a representative of the Department. But for the cooperation of public spirited citizens who own and who loaned many fine mounted and live specimens of Florida wild life to be shown with the Department Exhibit, and the financial provision made by fair association for caring for these exhibits, it would have been impossible to have provided this feature of the work. Requests received for the placing of similar exhibits at the aforementioned and at other fairs in the State, and the offer to make provisions for them, for the 1928-29 season, indicate the interest that they have aroused on the part of the public.

Sixth: A deputy of the Department was assigned for nine months to organize bird study clubs in those elementary schools of the State where teachers wished to carry on such work among their students. An en-

rollment of 8,000 boys and girls in bird study clubs resulted. Teachers secured the literature used in this work direct from the National Audubon Association. The deputy's duties included, further, work in organized camps for Boy Scouts and for "4-H" Club boys and girls of the rural sections. Hikes and field work for first hand information were everywhere encouraged, and in many instances, organized and conducted by the deputy.

Seventh: Leaflets carrying in simple terms the provisions of the Game Law of the State, were prepared and generally distributed. A leaflet and a bulletin on the economic value of birds in Florida to the truck crops raised in the State was also published and distributed. One thousand of each of these publications were, at the request of the State Supervisor of Agriculture, sent to the teachers of agriculture in Florida schools for use in their classes. A map showing the location of the breeding grounds in Florida was printed and distributed to be placed in public places to familiarize people with their location. Posters to be used on the grounds were also placed.

Eighth: The press has been one of the most potent factors in carrying both to the general public and into homes where few other agencies of information penetrate, the story of the wild life of Florida, and of what the State is doing for its conservation.

Florida's educational program for the conservation of wild life has reached large numbers of citizens and visitors in the State. As a result, sentiment for the conservation of wild life in Florida is steadily growing.

PROTECTION

1. Law Enforcement.—The law enforcement division is composed of full time deputies, part time men employed during the closed season for the spawning of fish, and again during the open season on deer in August, and at the opening of the regular hunting and trapping season in November; and of twelve assistant commissioners, who, in addition to the regular duties of deputies, have general supervision of law enforcement in their respective districts each comprised of a group of counties.

If Florida is to be adequately policed, its vast area and year-around open climate make necessary a larger

force for this work than are the forces employed in States of smaller area, and where winter cold provides a closed season through several months of the year.

This force works in close co-operation with the county and municipal officers, also with Federal men charged with the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Co-operative relationship has been maintained with the U. S. Forestry Service and with the newly established State Forestry Service.

Support given the enforcement of the Game Law by Courts in the several counties of the State, varies; respect for this law in the several counties, varies directly with the support given. A court by its attitude toward the service can greatly help or greatly hinder.

Records show that during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1928, that 624 arrests for the breaking of the Game Law were made. Convictions were obtained in 410 of these cases; of the 624, there were 43 nolle prossed and 3 in which bonds were forfeited. At the close of the fiscal year the final report of the disposition of 109 cases had not been made.

MILEAGE AND EXPENSE

Month	Assistant Commissioners	Mileage	Amount Paid	Deputies	Mileage	Amount Paid
July	11	20,550	\$ 1,342.50	95	140,340	\$ 4,112.50
August	11	20,937	1,382.20	103	145,743	5,521.02
September	11	20,777	1,393.82	78	102,850	4,408.12
October	11	21,623	1,384.40	82	116,497	4,656.23
November	12	22,272	1,573.52	123	159,146	6,759.67
December	12	24,211	1,634.00	124	159,525	6,900.76
January	12	23,247	1,847.83	97	111,790	4,878.37
February	12	22,265	1,530.70	70	93,620	4,534.89
March	12	24,080	1,543.92	69	98,452	4,242.40
April	12	21,882	1,549.66	73	89,313	4,448.59
May	12	20,580	1,457.74	72	105,467	4,545.57
June	12	21,845	1,460.73	73	87,892	4,333.51
Totals		264,219	\$18,101.02		1,410,635	\$59,341.13

A check on the expenditures made by the Department will show that the greater part of the revenue was expended for the salaries and travel of deputies and assistant commissioners whose time is given to law enforcement. After deducting the \$61,698.00 paid by the Department into the School Fund of the several Counties, it is found that 72% of the remaining funds were expended for law enforcement.

REVENUE

Not a dollar of tax money is appropriated in Florida for the support of the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish. Revenue for the support of this work is derived from the sale of licenses to hunters, trappers and fishermen supplemented by a small sum derived from court costs in cases successfully prosecuted. The money from fines goes into county funds. The total amount derived from court costs during the year was \$2,038.13.

A summary of the finances for the year follows:

SUMMARY

Paid Treasurer on this year's collections ...	\$295,200.00
Due Treasurer close of fiscal year (balance on hand, etc., see Auditor's Report)	15,788.09
Due from Judges on sales	5,188.29
	<hr/>
	\$316,176.38
Less unpaid balances from Judges carried forward from last year	488.05
	<hr/>
	\$315,688.33
Less balance on hand last year due State Treasurer	37.02
	<hr/>
	\$315,651.31

Of the amount derived from the sale of licenses, \$299,489.00, the sum of \$61,698.00 was paid into the school fund of the several counties of the State.

SALE OF LICENSES BY COUNTIES

COUNTY	A	B	C	D	F	G	N	O	P	Q	R	S	Total
Alachua	1,370	14	267	20	54	23	104	.....	3	2	410	104	2,371
Baker	127	4	21	.....	.....	.....	89	.....	1	6	34	15	297
Bay	208	28	92	6	124	32	50	.....	2	9	137	19	707
Bradford	185	8	62	1	4	14	58	.....	5	6	207	21	571
Brevard	861	46	133	13	52	11	118	.....	4	20	49	105	1,412
Broward	471	4	77	.....	.....	2	41	2	.....	2	40	40	679
Calhoun	357	7	27	1	118	68	86	.....	2	2	125	5	798
Charlotte	178	16	53	16	.....	3	59	.....	1	6	24	37	393
Citrus	510	54	57	15	223	16	69	.....	2	6	166	69	1,187
Clay	323	16	22	8	5	5	75	.....	.....	1	38	2	495
Collier	114	98	9	1	1	.....	112	2	1	39	3	112	492
Columbia	366	2	101	2	1	11	93	1	2	1	80	42	702
Dade	1,996	2	532	4	7	4	62	.....	4	.....	139	118	2,868
DeSoto	318	21	188	.....	.....	1	35	.....	19	9	205	104	900
Dixie	315	76	33	1	.....	.....	128	.....	3	1	18	226	801
Duval	1,179	1	1,188	.....	2	9	148	.....	7	2	826	167	3,529
Escambia	1,073	2	184	4	143	78	59	.....	.....	.....	287	7	1,837
Flagler	214	29	19	3	7	4	69	.....	5	11	11	30	402
Franklin	171	11	25	1	15	.....	44	1	1	5	30	10	314
Gadsden	1,287	3	172	1	4	16	138	.....	1	3	737	27	2,389
Glades	115	26	38	.....	.....	4	76	.....	4	5	28	29	325

SALE OF LICENSES BY COUNTIES—(Continued)

COUNTY	A	B	C	D	F	G	N	O	P	Q	R	S	Total
Gulf	180	7	15	12	319	17	63	.....	2	7	82	29	733
Gilchrist	50	32	46	3	1	.....	47	.....	1	2	69	49	300
Hamilton	178	8	23	14	.....	3	92	.....	1	1	30	26	376
Hardee	442	5	177	.....	1	1	59	.....	18	1	297	140	1,141
Hendry	222	80	49	.....	10	.....	95	.....	1	35	90	122	704
Hernando	462	35	48	2	9	5	50	.....	8	18	127	103	867
Highlands	310	15	112	3	27	6	75	.....	5	2	126	62	743
Hillsborough	1,845	.....	1,473	2	8	10	92	.....	18	1	1,667	505	5,621
Holmes	425	7	25	8	28	74	161	.....	.....	2	100	.....	830
Indian River	137	4	40	3	9	1	40	.....	.....	4	35	29	302
Jackson	699	23	59	13	7	10	167	3	3	1	125	6	1,116
Jefferson	586	10	29	26	29	18	212	.....	.....	4	55	185	1,154
Lafayette	226	12	35	2	.....	3	78	.....	9	5	23	74	467
Lake	1,025	20	367	15	446	154	155	1	1	12	393	343	2,932
Lee	472	16	282	22	5	17	77	3	10	3	188	270	1,365
Leon	1,095	14	295	163	99	69	104	1	3	3	268	124	2,238
Levy	1,068	149	49	.....	7	2	209	2	1	24	70	506	2,087
Liberty	263	12	10	.....	16	1	141	.....	2	9	37	9	500
Madison	162	7	54	21	4	6	104	.....	.....	.....	60	28	446

Manatee	559	3	205	.....	22	4	73	.....	4	.....	187	74	1,131
Marion	1,706	65	177	24	60	62	188	.....	5	7	292	383	2,969
Martin	155	19	34	.....	2	4	44	.....	5	1	22	34	320
Monroe	8	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	45
Nassau	619	36	10	2	10	1	149	.....	.....	3	5	47	882
Okaloosa	462	20	8	3	119	20	149	.....	.....	19	53	83	936
Okeechobee	167	17	72	.....	1	2	51	.....	21	22	25	32	410
Orange	1,230	11	540	17	182	80	105	.....	7	4	826	319	3,321
Osceola	647	60	79	1	36	10	138	.....	10	10	146	177	1,314
Palm Beach	796	13	207	7	6	5	172	9	1	6	47	115	1,384
Pasco	636	18	84	8	55	13	80	.....	7	4	130	50	1,085
Pinellas	360	10	377	4	9	6	29	.....	4	3	473	141	1,416
Polk	2,354	5	716	4	75	36	223	.....	17	3	901	384	4,718
Putnam	798	6	180	15	42	43	122	.....	2	1	137	123	1,469
St. Johns	861	21	136	1	.....	3	127	.....	1	5	73	59	1,287
St. Lucie	245	3	104	2	2	2	40	1	8	3	66	34	510
Santa Rosa	408	33	13	1	59	8	81	.....	.....	5	29	17	654
Sarasota	529	6	150	10	2	2	64	.....	11	2	97	70	943
Seminole	734	23	244	4	13	21	66	.....	5	4	524	110	1,748
Sumter	758	30	81	1	19	6	98	.....	2	8	155	62	1,220
Suwannee	419	9	53	17	2	4	52	.....	.....	1	26	5	588
Taylor	843	48	39	10	53	5	175	.....	2	7	44	536	1,762

SALE OF LICENSES BY COUNTIES—(Continued)

COUNTY	A	B	C	D	F	G	N	O	P	Q	R	S	Total
Union	90	5	13	.....	.....	.....	62	.....	2	.....	32	.....	204
Volusia	1,869	24	325	20	71	47	205	.....	3	16	561	331	3,472
Wakulla	467	46	41	13	138	29	82	1	5	15	39	42	918
Walton	535	18	46	9	243	91	163	1	3	5	77	51	1,242
Washington	443	9	58	2	180	147	138	.....	6	8	129	10	1,130
Totals	40,283	1,489	10,480	581	3,186	1,349	6,633	28	281	439	12,532	7,188	84,469

NOTE:--

Series "A"—Resident County Game, \$2.25.

Series "B"—Resident Game (in county other than home), \$5.50.

Series "C"—Resident State Game, \$10.50.

Series "D"—Non-resident State Game, \$25.50.

Series "F"—Non-resident County Fishing, \$2.50.

Series "G"—Non-resident State Fishing, \$5.50.

Series "N"—Resident County Trapping, \$5.50.

Series "O"—Non-resident County Trapping, \$25.50.

Series "P"—Resident State Trapping, \$25.50.

Series "Q"—Resident Additional County Trapping, \$10.50.

Series "R"—Resident State Fishing, \$1.50.

Series "S"—Special Deer License, \$1.25.

An examination of the foregoing report shows that the counties having the greatest population have produced the largest revenue from the sale of licenses. A further study of the report shows that a large part of this revenue comes from the sale of licenses that permit the resident of these counties to hunt outside their county limits. Since the best hunting grounds are to be found in counties of least population, this is readily understood. The necessity for protecting the areas in which the game is most abundant, even though these areas lie within counties that have produced but small revenue for the support of the Department, is readily apparent.

A further examination of the report shows that, contrary to popular opinion, non-residents pay but a small proportionate part for the conservation work done in this State.

REPORTS FROM HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS

The law requires a report at the close of a season from persons licensed to kill or capture wild life in this State. The information thus secured is of value to the State in that it indicates the abundance or lack of birds and animals which may be lawfully captured or killed in the sections from which such reports are made. Such information is needed when bag limits and seasons are to be fixed, or when restocking areas is undertaken. The law was complied with in part only, as is shown by the records of the office.

Hunting licenses were issued to 52,281 persons; reports were received from 10,169, approximately one-fifth of the number licensed.

Trapping licenses were issued to 7,653 persons; reports were received from 2,567, approximately one-third of the number licensed.

The reports received showed that hunters had killed: Quail, 259,139; doves, 76,105; squirrels, 28,610; ducks, 47,300; rabbits, 40,631; snipe, 12,660; wild turkeys, 3,618; geese, 270; marsh hens, 4,928; deer, 1,111.

Hunters listed as "vermin" the following killed: Wild cats, 1,428; stray house cats, 1,416; owls, 5,501; crows, 11,248; hawks, 14,497.

Trappers reported taking: Raccoons, 62,321; o'possums, 35,136; skunks, 13,802; civet cats, 1,661; grey fox, 1,771; red fox, 51; mink, 787; weasels, 26; panther, 10; bear, 13.

The economic value of the game killed when considered as food for home tables, is no inconsiderable amount. The revenue derived from Florida pelts is no small item.

REPORTS FROM HUNTERS

COUNTY	GAME										VERMIN					
	Deer	Rabbit	Squirrel	Turkey	Quail	Duck	Geese	Snipe	Dove	Marsh Hen	Crow	Hawk	Owl	Wild Cat	House Cat	Miscellaneous
Alachua	7	1,279	4,169	1	8,764	1,600	1	147	6,570	50	353	284	108	6	60	68
Baker	2	175	203	2	1,516	15	.....	11	947	.....	2	13	7	.....	25	10
Bay .....	.....	122	584	5	2,035	154	1	15	768	4	48	31	25	1	14	.....
Bradford	2	122	521	.....	2,645	26	.....	7	1,918	.....	3	36	20	.....	2	.....
Brevard	12	567	1,285	117	6,091	8,634	.....	743	1,657	121	126	472	97	112	42	504
Broward	2	332	64	6	2,051	326	.....	44	3,856	16	47	112	18	7	17	7
Calhoun .....	.....	173	1,457	55	1,358	85	.....	24	654	.....	38	65	39	2	16	15
Charlotte	4	159	57	17	2,661	117	.....	141	638	20	72	107	20	7	2	.....
Citrus	2	400	1,002	38	3,429	673	60	286	1,358	34	70	143	51	6	7	10
Clay .....	.....	379	1,666	4	3,124	236	.....	132	1,342	6	18	113	34	9	7	100
Collier	24	164	220	120	2,545	136	1	112	1,071	16	95	129	23	5	9	25
Columbia	3	494	1,232	14	5,278	248	5	28	2,719	2	163	110	28	8	18	2
Dade	10	354	216	21	3,264	4,059	1	437	8,278	130	95	387	62	44	51	93
DeSoto	6	267	439	13	4,900	253	.....	441	2,157	7	104	162	16	6	13	38
Dixie	29	245	2,262	65	2,511	182	.....	73	2,060	3	151	143	57	6	2	3
Duval	4	1,860	4,615	48	11,101	574	16	274	5,818	592	569	454	160	15	93	112
Escambia .....	.....	1,521	1,496	32	11,575	421	20	201	10,928	55	350	394	88	14	46	201
Flagler	2	159	977	53	1,806	110	.....	20	507	5	91	126	43	15	9	27

REPORTS FROM HUNTERS—(Continued)

	GAME										VERMIN					
COUNTY	Deer	Rabbit	Squirrel	Turkey	Quail	Duck	Geese	Snipe	Dove	Marsh Hen	Crow	Hawk	Owl	Wild Cat	House Cat	Miscellaneous
Franklin	1	15	530	14	229	383	28	48	660	23	33	74	27	5	2	.....
Gadsden	7	1,623	7,223	263	6,350	270	11	13	3,938	.....	229	155	86	5	29	33
Glades	4	71	116	44	1,960	484	.....	270	845	20	77	118	47	33	21	3
Gilchrist .....	.....	34	67	.....	494	15	.....	.....	110	.....	.....	22	15	.....	2	.....
Gulf	2	130	757	20	248	224	.....	8	320	3	71	32	53	6	2	.....
Hamilton	4	218	1,031	10	1,153	20	.....	56	2,101	.....	58	94	38	10	10	.....
Hardee	4	580	749	14	3,362	222	8	61	2,920	.....	71	153	41	8	11	105
Hendry	17	79	152	77	1,829	96	.....	81	558	36	70	121	25	38	10	60
Hernando	5	195	1,588	8	1,691	248	.....	116	1,515	23	1	91	27	13	5	.....
Highlands	3	189	200	31	2,350	470	1	155	734	2	143	85	27	17	6	1
Hillsborough	6	1,018	1,850	26	8,187	558	1	375	3,610	129	25	194	75	11	21	26
Holmes .....	.....	535	2,430	19	2,918	96	.....	7	1,113	11	48	83	43	.....	2	21
Indian River ..	2	49	95	6	1,700	433	.....	55	446	22	42	116	32	7	8	2
Jackson .....	.....	993	2,556	56	4,337	243	.....	26	916	1	189	152	42	3	20	13
Jefferson	22	458	1,928	69	3,211	588	7	73	2,444	10	134	117	83	30	8	10
Lafayette	9	255	1,825	52	1,860	44	.....	1	871	.....	81	68	82	26	6	.....
Lake	56	1,119	5,300	49	11,936	1,563	1	319	10,910	55	255	449	161	38	30	19
Lee	2	150	38	67	3,274	339	20	224	772	14	98	105	24	9	5	27
Leon	4	767	3,144	102	5,013	1,568	21	109	2,563	11	271	184	61	9	27	45
Levy	36	786	6,797	151	7,615	1,117	3	123	3,960	86	300	525	241	54	66	102

Liberty	1	113	2,326	72	470	206	9	434	70	142	70	69	17	4	69
Madison	2	181	377	19	1,968	365	2	12	1,261	6	278	76	26	5	21
Manatee	8	603	705	24	6,271	246	3	569	3,297	18	190	295	55	7	8
Marion	76	5,134	9,126	154	23,397	1,699	2	314	17,398	80	614	1,023	354	63	86
Martin	4	181	440	47	2,589	389	278	573	18	71	138	41	6	2	14
Monroe															
Nassau	4	534	6,852	161	2,893	325	78	2,474	1,719	272	247	105	24	36	24
Okaloosa	2	202	853	9	1,500	66	1	659	100	38	46	13		3	4
Okeechobee	2	63	65	22	1,494	531	241	466	124	120	308	34	5	2	60
Orange	13	1,096	3,217	176	10,755	2,406	2	878	4,345	116	569	549	182	53	41
Osceola	17	870	1,113	153	5,284	659	2	725	1,314	31	445	255	120	47	26
Palm Beach	6	1,001	167	30	3,287	2,167	1	725	2,074	225	115	224	48	41	15
Pasco	7	1,894	3,441	51	9,303	1,286	2	195	3,507	190	175	560	240	41	36
Pinellas	1	180	269	3	2,380	244	81	638	40	67	87	11	3	5	23
Polk	18	2,935	3,062	76	17,035	1,215	5	968	9,200	73	567	795	241	68	63
Putnam	8	616	2,893	45	7,006	721	135	3,543	8	164	276	104	29	29	27
St. Johns	8	393	1,843	57	3,500	340	49	1,802	242	182	223	110	20	28	55
St. Lucie	4	334	644	44	2,759	503	677	815	35	225	473	85	4	10	6
Santa Rosa		502	298	15	3,264	27	29	1,426	6	110	74	18	2	47	26
Sarasota	2	472	516	10	3,853	449	483	2,393	18	228	110	51	3	14	14
Seminole	1	565	2,735	34	3,184	1,059	264	1,444	91	122	316	122	25	16	42
Sumter	10	503	3,338	26	4,005	496	108	3,391	39	145	227	147	12	28	4
Suwannee	2	764	1,048	12	9,955	70	30	2,992	21	233	173	65	6	36	22
Taylor	26	766	3,719	121	4,471	558	3	78	3,348	25	305	226	145	19	18
Union		33	356	4	1,007	22	16	608	18	3	18	14	3	11	
Volusia	41	938	8,556	391	9,687	3,055	1	372	3,988	79	883	1,054	393	59	69
Wakulla	5	102	1,946	55	985	598	40	30	357	54	58	30	14	9	
Walton	8	483	3,421	52	2,051	288	15	1,329	6	117	144	82	16	11	2
Washington		534	2,513	28	2,186	155	1	8	973	14	89	127	47	13	
Miscellaneous	8	603	1,930	38	2,226	435	36	1,006	25	130	103	39	7	14	28
Totals	577	40,631	128,610	3,618	295,136	47,300	270	12,660	171,607	4,998	11,248	14,500	5,101	1,428	2,928

REPORTS FROM TRAPPERS

COUNTY	Skunk	Red Fox	Mink	Bear	Raccoon	Musk Rat	Grey Fox	Civet Cat	Panther	O'Possum	Wild Cat	Weasel	Hawk	House Rat
Alachua	357		6		826		23			639	1			
Baker	67				435		2			79				
Bay	124				176		3	2		101				
Bradford	114				273	1	19			217				
Brevard	98				2,071		2	888		1,076				
Broward	23				317			4		92				
Calhoun	150				326	1	4	3		231				
Charlotte	9				284		22			147				
Citrus	119		149		343		39			309				
Clay	59				450		19	2		225				
Collier	32			1	3,346		23	8	3	291				
Columbia	1,233		5		880		17	3		504	2			
Dade			10		669			1		134	4			
DeSoto	65				656		12	5		384	1			
Dixie	345		71		544		1			308	2			
Duval	199		19		829		4	26		462	17			
Escambia	115	2	1		419		30			366				
Flagler	169		1		1,021		14	2		292	8			
Franklin	161				187					118	20			
Gadsden	158		2		449	2	23	15		499				
Gilchrist	295				81		9			174				
Glades	81				774		16	92		414	4			

Gulf	81				531		18			253			
Hamilton	307	1			745		5			772			
Hardee	36				433		18			429			
Highlands	9				722		9	4	1	154	28		
Hendry	33		1	2	1,296	5	19	2		446	9		
Hillsborough	230		4		867		8	22		545	9		
Holmes	299	1	57		591		18	15		810		5	
Hernando	83		21		608		50			397	1		
Indian River	14				562			31		213	1		
Jackson	364		8		408		19	33	1	1,079			
Jefferson	189				836	11	4	22		1,097	1	2	
Lafayette	444				476		1			536	1	1	
Lake	262	1	12		1,884	2	54	4		867	1		
Lee	2		1		493	82	8	2		74			
Leon	167	2			364		12	7		350			
Levy	367	1	100	2	1,235	7	13	1	1	1,118	2		
Liberty	116				940	1	4			353	6		
Madison	116		1		368	1	3			609	4	2	
Manatee	171				684		11	1		265			
Marion	494	1		1	1,939	1	125	4		1,684	4	4	
Martin	92	6			732	1	25			507	1		
Monroe	5		1		1,313		2			35			
Nassau	196		1		1,225		12			507	2		
Okaloosa	670		2		742		314			429	5	2	
Okeechobee	22				496		7	14		131	1		
Orange	143				2,444		9			1,058	6		
Osceola	112				1,584		14	1		560			
Palm Beach	151			1	5,498	8	4	68	3	1,326	23		
Pasco	92		80		1,061		20	1		594	4		
Pinellas	62		1		412		17	5		141	9	1	
Polk	350			1	2,856		46	21		1,213	24		
Putnam	501				1,493		36	3		1,139	10		

REPORTS FROM TRAPPERS—(Continued)

COUNTY	Skunk	Red Fox	Mink	Bear	Raccoon	Musk Rat	Grey Fox	Civet Cat	Panther	O'Possum	Wild Cat	Weasel	Hawk	House Rat
Santa Rosa	441	3			273		113	2		278	1			
Sarasota	38				626		39	7		484				
Seminole	63				1,114		1			480	10			
St. Johns	83		58		914		3			332	2			
St. Lucie	35	7			315		1	6		154				
Sumter	346		32		1,014		13		1	1,018				
Suwannee	610	1			134		48			670	1	2		
Taylor	589		69		1,105		46			948				
Union	125				356	4	5			292				
Volusia	291	24	33		3,289		29	302		1,049	6	1		453
Wakulla	93		4		205			9		195	6	1		
Walton	488		11		1,218	2	175	9		1,215	4			
Washington	285		26		648	3	33	3		835	13	5	34	
Miscellaneous	162	1		5	916		78	10		433				
Totals	13,802	51	787	13	63,321	132	1,771	1,660	10	35,136	254	26	34	453

ACCIDENTS IN THE FIELD

A deplorable result of the hunting season is seen in the reports of accidents in the field. Those listed for the 1927-28 season are as follows:

Haskell Godwin of Hastings, accidentally shot. He was hunting with two companions when one of the boys killed a large rattle-snake with a shot from a double barrel shot gun. He laid the gun down while they examined the snake. When it was picked up the second barrel was accidentally discharged, the shot taking effect in the leg of young Haskell. The accident resulted in death.

E. E. Cone of Tampa, was accidentally shot by a companion while hunting in Collier County. The two men were charged by a wild bull. Cone's hunting companion fired at the infuriated animal just as Cone ran between the gun and the bull. He was shot in the back. Death resulted.

Willis B. Zorn of Palatka was accidentally shot by a companion while hunting. The shot took effect in the leg which was amputated. Death ensued from a loss of blood.

Warren Hunt of Orlando was accidentally shot by a companion. Both boys fired at a bird as it flew from a bush. Young Hunt was ahead and received the shot in his back.

An unknown man who was yelping like a turkey in woods near Callahan was mistaken for one by a nearby hunter who fired without assuring himself that the bird was there. The shot proved fatal.

H. D. Duke of Clay County, was accidentally shot by a companion while hunting quail. On the rise of a covey he was struck in the face and arm by a shot from the gun of his companion.

P. T. Smith of Winter Beach, had his rifle in hand while passing through a scrubby brush. It was accidentally discharged, the bullet taking effect near the spine.

No law can prevent accidents but precaution often will.

COURT DECISION

Validity of the Act creating the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish and prescribing its duties has been upheld by the Florida Supreme Court.

The judgment was rendered in affirming a decision made by the Court of the Twenty-third Judicial District, in the case of Eugene Oglesby, convicted for taking fresh water fish from Lake Monroe with a net of unlawful length.

The law was attacked on the ground of insufficiency of title, and that it purports to be a general law but contains provisions local in character and application, that it is discriminatory and attempts to delegate legislative power to the State Game Commissioner, the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish and to the Wild Life Commission of the State.

The decision of the appellate court upholding the validity of the Act of the Legislature of 1927 creating the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish and prescribing its duties was written by Chief Justice William H. Ellis.

PROPAGATION NEEDED

Florida's five greatest sources of wealth are agriculture, manufacturing, lumbering and naval stores, Recreation and Commercial Fisheries.

It is estimated that one million of people, the majority of whom are in search of recreation, visit Florida annually. The income from this source, which finds its way directly into more channels of trade than does that from any other source, runs far into millions of dollars. This fact gives an added value to any wholesome sport that serves to attract people of the leisure class who have money to spend.

Annually thousands are attracted to Florida by the hunting and fishing that the State affords. Whatever can be done to conserve and increase the supply increases the value of this asset to every citizen in the State, both those who go into the open to enjoy it themselves and those who profit by the increased revenue that it brings into circulation.

In view of the present and potential values of the hunting and fishing and trapping of Florida, the sum expended for the conservation of the resource seems negligible.

RESTOCKING

The Department has expended such funds as have been available for the purchase of imported stock, in buying Mexican Bob-Whites and Wild Turkeys. These were placed where the introduction of new blood would make more virile the native stock, and where they would restock depleted areas. Both species of bird show themselves well adapted to Florida conditions. During the fiscal year, 3,872 Bob-Whites were imported, bringing the total that the Department has released in such areas, up to date, to 5,876 and the total number of turkeys to 141. This work is limited both by finances and by the limited supply of breeding stock available for purchase.

Under a permit from the Department a trapper is experimenting with the breeding of otter in captivity.

The propagation of wild ducks in captivity is being attempted by another citizen granted a permit by this Department.

BREEDING GROUNDS AND REFUGES

Of utmost importance to the conservation of wild life is the establishment of breeding grounds to further propagation and refuges that shall afford sanctuary for game when too hard pressed.

That this fact is generally recognized throughout the country is shown by the appropriations and bond issues authorized both by State and Federal Governments, for the establishing of areas to serve these purposes.

Though the first Federal Bird Reservation in this country was established in Florida so far back as 1903, and the State today has a greater number of such reservations than has any other State, these areas are small. Florida is confronted by the same need for breeding grounds of larger area and more generally

distributed than are federal reservations, as exists in other States.

Florida may not bond for this or any other purpose, and makes no appropriation for the conservation of wild life but, as has been previously stated, depends solely upon the revenue from licenses and court costs. Florida's problem, insofar as breeding grounds are concerned, has been to find a way.

THE FLORIDA PLAN

To secure under existing conditions the necessary wild life breeding grounds, the State Game Commissioner proposed the plan that was written into the Game Law enacted in 1927. The provision gives authorization to close to all shooting selected areas, and the right to close for spawning purposes, selected bodies of fresh waters. Under this plan thirty-six breeding grounds and refuges, having a total area of 4,660 square miles, have been closed to all shooting; and, two bodies of water, namely, Silver Springs and run and Wakulla Springs, and the Wakulla River as far run and Wakulla Springs and the Wakulla River as far

In putting into effect the Florida plan it has been the policy of the Department, prior to the closing of any area, to secure interest and co-operation for the enterprise from a large per cent of the citizens having holdings within the area, and to secure the approval of the undertaking from the county officials and those members of the Legislature who represent the area affected. Following this the matter then goes to the Wild Life Commission and the Governor for approval. When this has been given and the required advertising and posting complied with the area is closed and the breeding ground established. To maintain a balance between wild birds and animals and predatory animals in closed grounds, trapping without gun or dog is permitted in the area during the open trapping season.

Proposed as the most feasible plan under existing financial conditions, the Florida plan has advantages that would tend to make it a permanent feature in Florida's conservation program. Among these is the fact that every section of the State has an equal chance to secure a breeding ground; further, the plan devel-

ops a consciousness in the individual citizen of his direct interest in the wild life of the State and responsibility for its protection; furthermore, it drives home the fact that without his co-operation in the work, particularly in that of maintaining closed areas, effort on the part of the State is largely thwarted.

Without the appropriation of a dollar this plan secures an area from which the sportsman may look for the longed for increase in game; in which the trapper may reap the benefit that is to be expected from the close protection of fur-bearing animals during their breeding season; in which the nature lover who finds his pleasure in the living presence of wild life has assurance that no death-dealing gun may be legally fired; where the feathered allies of the agriculturists of Florida have their best chance for maintaining themselves in sufficient numbers to render their great service through the destruction of insect pests.

RESULTS

Under this plan the increase in wild life has been noticeable. That it has come so quickly has been both encouraging and gratifying. Deer, turkey and quail show a marked increase in practically all sections of the State.

The following lists the breeding grounds that have been established in this State, together with the area of each:

County.	Area in Sq. Miles
Alachua	31
Bay	86
Brevard No. 1. "Canaveral"	26
No. 2. "Cabbage Slough"	62
Calhoun	4
Charlotte No. 1. "Telegraph Cypress"	149
Clay	48
Collier	991
Dade No. 1. "Royal Palm"	10
No. 2. "Tamiami"	72
No. 3. "Opalocka"	8
DeSoto	74

County	Area In Sq. Miles
Duval No. 1. "J. J. Logan"	5
No. 2. "Atlantic"	112
Flagler No. 1	49
No. 2	19
Glades	442
Hardee	42
Hendry	252
Highlands No. 1	114
No. 2	24
Hillsborough No. 1	156
No. 2. "Interbay"	18
Indian River	14
Lafayette	13
Lake	12
Lee No. 1. "Pine Island"	35
No. 2. "Tamiami"	80
No. 3. "Alva"	27
Leon	2
Manatee	64
Marion	202
Martin	1
Okaloosa	187
Orange No. 1	20
No. 2. "Field Trial"	8
No. 3. "Angebilt"	1.16
Palm Beach	179
Pasco	61
Polk No. 1. "Frostproof"	189
No. 2. "Hatchenaha"	32
No. 3. "Polk City"	78
Putnam No. 1	30
No. 2	28
Sarasota	62
Santa Rosa	151
St. Lucie No. 1	26
No. 2	3
Wakulla	3
Walton	231
Washington	127
Total area in square miles	4,660.16

640

200

337

FISH HATCHERIES

It would be difficult to place a monetary value on the fresh water fisheries of Florida. Recognized throughout the United States as furnishing the finest and most extensive black bass fishing to be found anywhere, Florida's 30,000 lakes and numerous streams have played an important part in attracting to the State many thousands of sportsmen annually. With many of them have come their families. Many who came for sport have remained as citizens of the State. Others who have come for other reasons, have become interested in the fine fishing that the State affords and found in it another magnet that attracts. All have made their contribution in the upbuilding and progress of the State.

The rapid depletion of fish in the fresh waters of practically every other State is bringing to Florida's fishing grounds increased preferment. Herein lies one of the great opportunities of the State.

The maintaining of an abundant supply of fish in the fresh waters of Florida, therefore, is of importance to the State at large. Every business catering to the needs of tourists and fishermen, have a very direct interest in it. Not only does the increase in tourist and permanent population accentuate this need, but the advent of good roads and rapid transportation facilities to all sections of the State has made it more pressing, raising the question as to how long it will be possible to maintain the excellent fresh water fishing for which the State is now famous.

The fact that even now the catch in many of our lakes and streams has already shown a decided decrease over that of a few years ago should bring home the necessity for taking proper steps to conserve this great asset.

Recognizing the situation the Legislature in 1927 passed laws that regulated seasons, and prescribed the numbers and size of fish that may be legally taken. These measures, if enforced, will suffice to maintain an average supply of fish in certain waters of the State for some years to come. Many other waters, however, that are either heavily fished or lack the best conditions for natural reproduction must be frequently

stocked with hatchery produced fish, if their productivity is to be maintained. The fish hatchery is the solution.

The value of the hatchery for this purpose has been proven beyond question. Many States have in operation at this time, from ten to twenty. Among these are California and Oregon, with twenty each; New York with eighteen; Michigan with seventeen; Ohio with fourteen; Maine with twelve; Wisconsin with eleven; Idaho with ten; and the Federal Government with thirty-five main hatcheries and thirty-eight auxiliary hatcheries, located in various States.

Unfortunately Florida has no Federal Hatchery for the propagation of fresh water fish. Until the enactment of the present law, the laws for the protection of the fresh water fish of the State were not considered sufficient to warrant the placing of a Federal Hatchery in this State, it has been stated by Federal authorities. Immediately following its enactment the Federal Bureau of Fisheries had introduced in Congress a bill authorizing the appropriation of \$100,000 for the establishment of a fish cultural station in this State. This bill passed both Houses but failed of the President's signature, and having been enacted less than ten days prior to the adjournment of the last session of Congress, failed to become a law without his signature.

Another fact that emphasizes the need for the establishment of hatcheries in Florida to maintain her pre-eminence as a black bass fishing ground, is the fact that these fish are more difficult to propagate than are those of many other species, such as salmons and trout of various species found in Northern and Western waters. It has been found that once the supply of bass is reduced it is the most difficult species of fresh water fish to rehabilitate. It behooves Florida to use every effort to maintain the present supply.

It is evident that a comprehensive fish hatchery program should be pushed vigorously in the immediate future. With this end in view the Department in January, 1928, sought the good offices of Henry O'Malley, U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries, and with his assistance secured the services of Fred J. Foster, formerly

with the Bureau, a fish culturists of national recognition, having had twenty years experience in fish culture and fisheries administration.

If sufficient inspection and study of hatchery sites was to be made to insure a wise selection, it was obviously impossible to locate, construct and stock in sufficient time to produce a return during the spawning season of 1928, therefore no attempt was made to put a hatchery into commission during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1928.

The first months of 1928 were devoted to inspection of possible sites, particularly of those in sections of the State that serve as centers for given areas.

A study was made also of the site in West Florida previously acquired by the Shell Fish Commission and transferred, as the result of an act of the 1927 Legislature, to the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish.

Several factors enter into the selection of a hatchery site, the most important being elevation of site in relation to water supply and drainage, freedom from flood conditions, character of water and soil, location in relation to distribution of output, size of available site, cost of purchase or lease and cost of construction.

It is difficult indeed to find a site in which all of the above factors are favorable; two or three are frequently found in combination but with one or more others so adverse as to render the location undesirable. One of the most difficult, yet a most important factor, is the availability of a gravity supply of water, suitable both as to quality and quantity with the site of sufficient elevation above some nearby lake, ditch or stream so that the lakes of the hatchery may be completely drained whenever desired. Unless this combination is present resort would have to be made to large and expensive pumping equipment, the maintenance of which year after year would be a large item of expense.

Another all important factor at this time is the limited funds available for hatchery development and operation, there being but a small fraction of such amount as is usually expended by Federal or State Departments in the development of a single project.

This Department was therefore faced with the problem of acquiring the best possible sites and starting construction with little or no expenditure at this time. Difficult as this appeared we were extremely fortunate in securing hatchery locations near Winter Haven and Jacksonville which approach the ideal and starting work without drawing upon the meager funds of the Department.

WINTER HAVEN HATCHERY

If funds are provided for full development of this hatchery over a period of three or four years, the Winter Haven Hatchery will be by far the largest hatchery devoted to the propagation of black bass and related species of fish, in the United States. It will cover an area of approximately 1,200 acres, the largest hatchery in operation at the present time is about 100 acres in water area.

A part of this development may be carried on by closing to fishing certain State waters and the construction of the necessary fish cultural improvements. Other developments will be upon privately controlled property, purchase or lease of which is necessary.

Owing to the lack of funds it is possible to develop but the first unit of this hatchery at this time, the project which may be completed with the smallest expense.

The privately controlled property, known as Lake Gwyn, was selected for this first development, a fifteen year lease of the property with the privilege of renewal for an additional fifteen years secured at a cost of one dollar for the entire lease, and work started. This unit will cover an area of 150 acres. It may be filled by gravity from Lake Lulu which is one of a chain of connecting lakes at Winter Haven.

At the close of June the drag line engaged in deepening the outlet ditch was within a short distance from the lake. Completion of the Lake Gwynn unit is planned to be accomplished during the Fall of this year and the unit stocked to produce a crop of fish during the coming season.

Much assistance in this matter was given by the Winter Haven Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, and by civic organizations at this point as well as by individuals, a total of \$2,600 having been given for the deepening of the drainage canal so that the lake might be drained completely.

Further development will depend upon the availability of funds. Up to and through June 30th, 1928, all cost of construction had been met from the funds contributed.

JACKSONVILLE HATCHERY

Though it is not to be compared in size with the site at Winter Haven, the Jacksonville Hatchery site is equal if not superior to that at Winter Haven both in natural advantages and in the small cost, relatively, that will be involved in its development.

The site is an old lake-bed located between the new aviation field and the prison farm, on property owned by the City of Jacksonville. The lake was drained to lower levels in ante-bellum days by means of a ditch.

During the construction of the airport a six-inch well was drilled adjacent to the former shore line of this lake, with the result that an artesian flow of water of approximately 600 gallons per minute was secured. But a small part of this water will be required at the airport, the balance may be diverted for fish cultural purposes. This gives an excellent supply of gravity water under absolute control. The site is bowl shaped, about fifty acres in area, and entirely free from flood conditions.

The City of Jacksonville, through resolution of its City Commission, has approved the use of this location by the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish for hatchery purposes, and through the co-operation of Commissioner St. Elmo Acosta, a large number of trees have been cut and removed from the site by prison labor, thus saving the Department a considerable expenditure for this necessary labor.

Up to and through the close of the fiscal year no State funds had been expended on this project. With a moderate outlay the hatchery will be in operation

by the opening of the next spawning season, provided sufficient prison labor is available.

LAUREL HILL HATCHERY

As previously stated this hatchery location was transferred to this Department as the result of an Act of the 1927 session of the Legislature. The site was originally purchased by contributions of the citizens of Laurel Hill and vicinity and deeded to the Shell Fish Commission, which, in turn, deeded the same to the Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish upon the transfer and payment by the Department of the sum of \$5,306.59, the same to cover expenditures made for surveys and in clearing a part of the grounds and in the construction of a tool house. The site consists of 77.2 acres through which passes Horsehead Creek.

A dam at the lower end of the property would make a lake of approximately 30 acres in area. By means of a diversion dam and by-pass ditch, it was planned to divert the waters of Horsehead Creek to a stream crossing the Southwest corner of the site.

The Department considered it advisable to observe conditions over a period of time before continuing construction, for a check on the drainage area of Horsehead Creek indicated that it drains an area of approximately sixty square miles, sufficient to create adverse flood conditions.

High waters in January and again in April showed that the lower dam should be constructed of such material and in such manner as to permit flood waters to pass over it with as little damage as possible. It was also evident that funds for the completion of the diversion dam and by-pass would not be available during the calendar year 1928. It was determined to construct the lower dam at this time and raise such fish during the spawning season of 1929, as might be possible under these existing conditions.

Plans were drawn for the construction of a Wakefield sheet pile dam, properly braced. No satisfactory figure was obtained from contractors for doing this work and it was decided to proceed with the construction, using day labor.

At the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 1928, the dam had been half completed, an additional area cleared of trees, and a considerable number of stumps removed.

Expenditures to the close of the fiscal year amounted to \$8,308.63. This sum included the \$5,306.59 paid the Shell Fish Commission.

AUXILIARY HATCHERIES

It is recognized that with little or no additional cost a greater number of black bass fry can be produced at a hatchery than is possible to bring to fingerling size with the same ponds and equipment. It is obvious that fry less than an inch in length stand a much less chance of reaching maturity than do fingerlings of four to five inches or larger.

The idea of Auxiliary Hatcheries or rearing ponds, located at various points over the State, is to receive the surplus fry which cannot be retained at the main hatchery and to rear them under conditions protecting them from enemies and old fish until they have reached a fair fingerling size and are more able to shift for themselves in open waters.

Another decided benefit of rearing ponds is that it effects considerable financial saving in the distribution of fish to outlying districts served by the main hatchery. Ten times the number of fry can be carried in a given truck load over that of four inch fingerlings, thus making a great saving in labor and transportation costs.

The auxiliary hatchery or rearing pond is identical in character to that of the hatchery lakes. No adult fish or any but minnows to serve as food for the young bass are permitted in the pond. Forage conditions are rendered as good as possible before the introduction of the fry in the spring and natural enemies eliminated.

Practically no attention is necessary during the summer months except to see that the proper water elevations are maintained and screens in proper condition. Rearing ponds are completely drained during the fall months and the fingerling fish distributed to nearby waters.

The rearing pond idea was originated by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries about six years ago and has met with excellent success and public favor in all parts of the country.

It is the intention of this Department to establish auxiliary hatcheries or rearing ponds wherever local organizations or individuals will furnish the necessary site and agree to look after the physical conditions of the property. This Department will undertake to furnish fry to stock the rearing ponds and assist with labor and equipment when the fingerlings are to be distributed.

Inspection was made of a number of locations and auxiliary hatchery sites selected at West Palm Beach, Keystone Heights, Clearwater and Dunedin. Others are under consideration at this time.

MICCOSUKEE DAM

At a cost of approximately \$2,500.00 a creosote sheet piling dam was constructed across the lower part of Lake Miccosukee Slough, at the highway bridge on State Road No. 1, in Jefferson County. This dam was constructed for the purpose of maintaining a water level in Lake Miccosukee during prolonged droughts. This dam will be the means of saving the wonderful fishing and shooting on this lake.

RESTOCKING FRESH WATER FISH

The Department has restocked numerous streams and lakes in the State this past season by seining fish from small lakes and streams that were drying up. These fish taken out of these waters would have perished had they not been moved to permanent lakes and streams.

It is hard to get the actual number of fish restocked in this way but the numbers run into millions. The Department was assisted in this work by private citizens and sportsmen's organizations.

DESTROYING PREDATORY FISH AND ANIMALS

The Department, with the assistance of private citizens and sportsmen's organizations has, in the past

year, done extensive work in lakes and streams with reference to destroying predatory fish, such as gar, mud fish, suckers, turtles and snakes. Millions of these enemies of game fish were destroyed during the past year by this method. The result has been that streams and lakes have a wonderful increase in young fish.

FINANCES

The receipts and disbursements of the Department are shown by the State Auditing Departments audit, a copy of which follows:

"Hon W. S. Murrow,
Acting State Auditor,
Tallahassee, Florida.
Dear Sir:

The following audit of the office of Hon. J. B. Royall, State Game Commissioner, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, is submitted.

Audit of this office was started by Auditor J. F. Davis, and this report represents the assembling of the notes of Mr. Davis as to licenses issued by the office, licenses issued through the County Judges; and also represents a verification as to the amounts due as refunds to certain of the County Judges and as to balances shown as due from some of the Judges.

We have also examined as to amounts due by the Game office to the State Treasurer and others, showing amounts paid and balances on hand to cover amounts which the office had not had time at the close of the fiscal year to check over before the close of the period. Reports as to disbursements from the State Game Fund, showing distribution made to the County School Funds under the provisions of 1927 Legislative Act, and amounts disbursed for operating expenses of the office are set out.

COMMERCIAL LICENSES ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT

LICENSES ON BOATS RENTED FOR HUNTING AND FISHING

Licenses printed	1 to 1200
Licenses used	1 to 1029

Licenses not used (destroyed) 1030 to 1200
 Numbers cancelled: Nos. 773, 1000, 1001, 1002,
 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1026, 1027, 1028,
 1029—Total 14.

14 cancelled

1000 @ \$ 2.50	\$2,500.00
11 @ 4.00	44.00
1 @ 15.00	15.00
3 @ 25.00	75.00

1029

\$2,634.00

LICENSES ISSUED FOR FRESH WATER COM- MERCIAL FISHING BOATS

Licenses printed 1 to 1000
 Licenses used 1 to 624
 Licenses not used (destroyed) 625 to 1000
 Numbers cancelled: Nos. 214, 230, 415, 475, 541,
 540, 579, 580, 623, 624—Total 10.

10 cancelled.

8 @ \$1.10	\$ 8.80
2 @ 1.20	2.40
4 @ 1.40	5.60
4 @ 1.50	6.00
3 @ 1.60	4.80
2 @ 1.90	3.80
591 @ 1.00	591.00

624

\$622.40*

*Includes \$3.00 shown held for licenses June 30, 1928.
 See last report.

RESIDENT RETAIL FRESH WATER FISH DEALERS LICENSES

Licenses printed 1 to 2000
 Licenses used 1 to 775
 Licenses not used (destroyed) 776 to 2000
 Numbers cancelled: Nos. 28, 39, 55, 93, 169, 209,
 459, 466, 485, 529, 533, 577, 648, 703, 725, 746, 769,
 773, 23.
 20 cancelled.

754 @ \$ 5.00	\$3,770.00
1 @ 50.00 non-resident retail	50.00

775	\$3,280.00*
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*Includes \$15.00 shown held for licenses June 30, 1927. See last report.

WHOLESALE FRESH WATER FISH DEALERS LICENSES

Licenses printed	1 to 100
Licenses used	1 to 32
Licenses unused (destroyed)	33 to 100
Numbers cancelled: None.	
32 @ \$50.00	\$1,600.00 \$1,600.00

GUIDE LICENSES

Numbers cancelled: Nos. 1, and 58.

Licenses printed	1 to 250
Licenses unused (destroyed)	39 to 50, 66 to 250
Licenses used	1 to 38, 51 to 65
2 cancelled.	
37 @ \$10.00	\$370.00
14 @ 10.00	140.00

53	\$510.00
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NON-RESIDENT FUR DEALERS LICENSES

Licenses printed	1 to 50
Licenses used	1 to 4
Licenses unused (destroyed)	5 to 50
Numbers cancelled: None.	
4 @ \$100.00	\$400.00 \$400.00

RESIDENT FUR DEALERS LICENSES

Licenses printed	1 to 300
Licenses used	1 to 214
Licenses unused (destroyed)	215 to 300
Numbers cancelled: 80 and 149.	
2 cancelled.	
212 @ \$10.00	\$2,120.00 \$2,120.00

BAIT NET LICENSES

Licenses printed	1 to 100
Licenses used	1 to 87
Licenses unused (destroyed)	88 to 100
Numbers cancelled: 69, 70 and 87.	
3 cancelled.	
36 @ \$1.00	\$36.00
47 issued for personal use.	
1 used for copy to printer.	
<hr/> 87	<hr/> \$36.00

ALIEN HUNTING LICENSES

Licenses printed: None.	
Robert Wilson, London, Eng.	\$250.00
C. D. Murray, Montreal, Can.	50.00
Cyril Mondey, Ontario, Can.	50.00
Count Alonzo Szchenyi, Washington,	
D. C.	50.00
Wilfred E. Giono, Canada	50.00
	<hr/> \$250.00 \$250.00

COURT COSTS COLLECTED IN GAME CASES

Total collections	\$2,077.88
Refunds made	39.75
	<hr/>
Net collections	\$2,038.13 \$2,038.13*

*Of this amount \$9.50 was a duplicate collection and is due to be refunded. Funds on hand but not refunded June 30, 1928.

COLLECTIONS FROM MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES

Funds received for purchase of	
quail	\$1,500.00
Funds received for purchase of	
turkey	100.00
Films sold	42.65
Confiscated furs sold	72.50
	<hr/> \$1,715.15 \$1,715.15

LICENSES SOLD AS ACCOMMODATION TO LEON COUNTY JUDGE

(Fees collected due Leon County Judge: license collections due State Game Fund):

Series R.	1 to 98	\$ 98.00	
Series F.	6961 to 6970—10		
	7481 to 7489—9		
	19@ \$2.00	38.00	
Series G.	6861 to 6870—10		
	7141 to 7150—10		
	6951 to 6960—10		
	30		
	Void 6951—1		
	29@ 5.00	145.00	
			\$281.00
Fees Collected:			
Series R		\$ 49.00	
Series F		9.50	
Series G		14.50	
Total fees due Leon County Judge			\$ 73.00

LICENSES SOLD BY COUNTY JUDGES

Hunting:		
Series "A"		\$ 80,566.00
Series "B"		7,445.00
Series "C"		104,800.00
Series "D"		14,525.00
Fishing:		
Series "F"		6,372.00
Series "G"		6,745.00
Trapping:		
Series "N"		33,165.00
Series "O"		700.00
Series "P"		7,025.00
Series "Q"		4,390.00
Series "R"		12,532.00
Series "S" (special deer)		7,188.00
		\$285,453.00

1927 Fishing	963.00	
Series "F" for 1928.....	\$ 1,340.00	
Series "G" for 1928.....	4,875.00	
Series "R" for 1928.....	6,858.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$299,489.00	
Unpaid balances due from Judges on June 30, 1927....	488.05	
Over-remittances by certain of the judges, held for their credit	97.25	
	<hr/>	
	\$300,074.30	
Less balances due from cer- tain Judges, not remitted	3,650.29	
	<hr/>	
Total remittances	\$296,424.01	
Total amount of current collections due Game Fund		\$296,326.76
Total amount of current collections due as refunds		97.25
		<hr/>
		\$296,424.01
Total refunds held last year for credit of Judges (see last report)		\$118.25
Net refunds due this year.....		97.25
		<hr/>
Total refunds held by office for credit of Judges		\$215.50

NOTE: No refunds were made during the past year. These monies, however, were held for the credit of the Judges, and in case of any unpaid balances due on the current year, where a refund was held to the credit of an officer a deficit in the account of the same official was charged off against the refund due him.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS WITH COUNTY JUDGES

COUNTY	Licenses Sold Year Ending June 30, 1928	Total Remitted During Year	Additional Amts. Due on Current Year	Refunds Due on Current Year	Previous Balance Due	Previous Refund Due	Net Balance Due	Net Refunds Due
Alachua	\$ 7,571.00	\$ 7,573.00	\$	\$ 2.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2.00
Baker	1,078.00	1,079.25	.....	1.25	.....	.....	.....	1.25
Bay	3,064.00	2,898.00	166.00	.....	.....	.....	166.00*	.....
Bradford	1,987.00	1,987.00	.....	.....	.....	4.00	.....	4.00
Brevard	4,841.00	4,806.00	35.00	.....	.....	3.00	32.00	.....
Broward	2,119.00	2,119.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Calhoun	2,779.00	2,779.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Charlotte	1,833.00	1,833.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Citrus	3,506.00	3,444.00	62.00	.....	42.00	.....	104.00*	.....
Clay	1,616.00	1,616.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Collier	1,975.00	1,927.00	48.00	.....	.....	.....	48.00*	.....
Columbia	2,644.00	2,628.00	16.00	.....	.....	.....	16.00*	.....
Dade	10,319.00	10,319.00	.....	.....	.....	2.00	.....	2.00
DeSoto	3,675.00	3,670.00	5.00	.....	.....	.....	5.00*	.....
Dixie	2,334.00	1,564.00	770.00	.....	94.00	.....	864.00	.....
Duval	16,220.00	16,185.00	35.00	.....	.....	.....	35.00*	.....
Escambia	5,366.00	5,366.00	.....	.....	.....	1.00	.....	1.00
Flagler	1,497.00	1,497.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS WITH COUNTY JUDGES—(Continued)

COUNTY	Licenses Sold Year Ending June 30, 1928	Total Remitted During Year	Additional Amts. Due on Current Year	Refunds Due on Current Year	Previous Balance Due	Previous Refund Due	Net Balance Due	Net Refunds Due
Franklin	1,087.00	1,087.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gadsden	6,715.00	6,715.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Glades	1,347.00	1,327.00	20.00	.....	42.00	.....	62.00	.....
Gulf	3,549.00	3,547.00	2.00	.....	.....	.....	2.00*	.....
Gilchrist	1,228.00	1,194.00	34.00	.....	1.00	.....	35.00*	.....
Hamilton	1,602.00	1,583.00	19.00	.....	.....	4.00	15.00*	.....
Hardee	4,178.00	4,178.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hendry	2,416.00	2,249.00	167.00	.....	160.40	.....	327.40	.....
Hernando	2,563.00	2,631.00	.....	68.00	73.00	.....	5.00	.....
Highlands	2,753.00	2,758.00	.....	5.00	10.00	.....	5.00*	.....
Hillsborough	22,480.00	22,480.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Holmes	3,171.00	3,171.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Indian River	1,110.00	1,110.00	.....	1.00	.....	0.25	.....	1.25
Jackson	4,534.00	4,534.00	.....	.....	.....	3.00	.....	3.00
Jefferson	3,939.00	3,939.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lafayette	1,689.00	1,679.00	10.00	.....	.....	.....	10.00	.....
Lake	9,757.00	9,709.50	47.50	.....	1.00	.....	48.50*	.....
Lee	5,749.00	5,744.00	5.00	.....	.....	8.00	.....	3.00

Leon	12,384.00	12,366.00	18.00	.....	17.00	.....	35.00*	.....
Levy	5,337.00	5,315.00	22.00	.....	.....	27.00	.....	5.00
Liberty	1,650.00	1,640.00	10.00	.....	.....	9.00	1.00*	.....
Madison	2,283.00	2,285.00	.....	2.00	.....	.....	.....	2.00
Manatee	4,103.00	4,094.00	9.00	.....	.....	.....	9.00*	.....
Marion	8,623.00	8,628.00	.....	5.00	.....	.....	.....	5.00
Martin	1,186.00	1,186.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Monroe	236.00	236.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nassau	2,482.00	2,482.00	.....	.....	.....	6.00	.....	6.00
Okaloosa	2,588.00	2,491.00	97.00	.....	3.00	.....	100.00	.....
Okeechobee	2,208.00	1,096.61	1,111.39	.....	.....	.....	1,111.39	.....
Orange	11,767.00	11,762.00	5.00	.....	.....	.....	5.00*	.....
Osceola	3,971.00	3,986.00	.....	15.00	.....	.....	.....	15.00
Palm Beach	5,319.00	5,339.00	.....	20.00	.....	.....	.....	20.00
Pasco	3,430.00	3,430.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pinellas	5,910.00	5,910.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Polk	15,237.00	15,235.00	2.00	.....	.....	10.00	.....	8.00
Putnam	5,132.00	5,132.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Johns	4,133.00	4,126.00	7.00	.....	.....	24.00	.....	17.00
St. Lucie	2,188.00	2,187.00	1.00	.....	18.00	.....	19.00*	.....
Santa Rosa	1,870.00	1,870.00	.....	.....	.....	1.00	.....	1.00
Sarasota	3,634.00	3,211.00	423.00	.....	.....	7.00	416.00***	.....
Seminole	5,834.00	5,842.65	.....	8.65	25.65	.....	17.00	.....
Sumter	3,539.00	3,540.00	.....	1.00	.....	.....	.....	1.00
Suwannee	2,197.00	2,163.00	34.00	.....	1.00	.....	35.00	.....
Taylor	4,316.00	4,288.00	28.00	.....	.....	.....	28.00	.....

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS WITH COUNTY JUDGES—(Continued)

COUNTY	Licenses Sold Year Ending June 30, 1928	Total Remitted During Year	Additional Amts. Due on Current Year	Refunds Due on Current Year	Previous Balance Due	Previous Refund Due	Net Balance Due	Net Refunds Due
Union	750.00	750.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Volusia	10,717.00	10,726.00	.....	9.00	.....	.....	.....	9.00
Wakulla	3,338.00	3,447.00	.....	109.00	.....	.....	.....	109.00**
Walton	4,336.00	4,262.00	84.00	.....	.....	.....	84.00	.....
Washington	4,490.00	4,471.00	19.00	.....	.....	9.00	10.00*	.....
Totals	\$299,670.00	\$296,423.16	\$ 3,311.89	\$ 246.90	\$ 488.05	\$ 118.25	\$ 3,322.89	\$215.50

*Paid by Judges after June 30, 1928.

**Department paid refund due Wakulla County, after June 30, 1928.

***Paid \$145.00 after June 30, 1928; \$1.00 still due on account.

RECAPITULATION

Licenses sold during year.....	\$299,489.00	Unpaid balances this year.....	\$3,311.89
Remittances received	\$296,424.01	Unpaid balances last year.....	488.05
Remittances received	3,311.89		<u>\$3,799.94</u>
		Less overpayments last year....	246.90
Balances not paid	\$299,735.90		<u>\$3,553.04</u>
	246.90	Less overpayments this year....	118.25
	<u>\$299,489.00</u>		
	\$299,489.00	Net balance due	\$,3650.29
		Less net refunds due	215.50
			<u>\$3,434.79</u>

STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS, DISBURSEMENTS AND BALANCES FOR FISCAL YEAR

Balances on hand June 30, 1927, Lewis
State Bank, \$1,533.52, consisting of
monies held for the following ac-
counts—see last report:

Outstanding checks to State Treasurer \$	1,300.00
Funds due State Treasurer.....	37.02
Collections held for Res. retail fresh water fish dealers licenses to be is- sued in July	15.00
Collections held for fresh water com- mercial fishing boat license to be is- sued in July	3.00
Due Leon County Judge for fees	60.25
Refunds due County Judges	118.25

June 30, 1927 deposit with Lewis
State Bank \$ 1,533.52

COLLECTIONS:

Licenses issued for boats rented for hunting and fishing	2,634.00
Licenses commercial fishing boats (does not include \$3.00 shown above).....	619.40
Licenses resident retail fresh water fish, (does not include \$15.00 shown above)	3,085.00
Licenses wholesale fresh water fish dealers	1,600.00
Licenses for guides	510.00
Licenses non-resident fur dealers.....	400.00
Licenses resident fur dealers	2,120.00
Licenses bait nets	36.00
Licenses alien hunting	250.00
Licenses sold for Leon County Judge....	281.00
Fees collected for Leon County Judge	73.00
Confiscated furs sold	72.50
Funds received for purchase quail.....	1,500.00
Funds received for purchase turkey.....	100.00

Films sold	42.65	
Court costs collected in game cases.....	2,077.88	
Over-collections from County Judges:		
Net shown on page 6.....	\$215.50	
Less amt. incl. above	118.25	
Net increase this year.....	97.25	
Hunting, fishing and trapping li-		
censes sold by County Judges.....	299,489.00	
Previous balances due from County		
Judges	488.05	
Cash held for 1928-29 licenses	45.50	
Interest credited by bank on account.....	288.73	
Paid fees to Leon County Judge for		
past year		60.25
Refund Court costs (over-collected)		39.75
Refunded sale of quail (paid into		
Treasury in error last year—see last		
report authorizing)		87.50
Office licenses charged (credit due from		
last year—see last report authoriz-		
ing		56.00
Remitted State Treasurer—checks out-		
standing last year		1,300.00
Remitted State Treasurer on current		
years' collections		295,200.00
Unpaid checks held by office on June		
30, 1928 account closing of banks be-		
fore could be presented for payment		1,538.00
Bank balance Lewis State Bank June		
30, 1928		15,760.22
Remittances on business of fiscal year		
closing June 30, 1928—deposited in		
bank after that date		243.00
Funds on hand, collected for business		
of fiscal year closing June 30, 1928—		
deposited after that date		118.95
Due by office, unaccounted for, probably		
errors in collections		9.52
	<u>\$318,063.48</u>	<u>\$318,063.48</u>

FUNDS TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY DEPARTMENT:

Due Leon County Judge for fees.....	\$	73.00
Cash collected and held for 1928-29		
licenses		45.50

Refunds due County Judges	215.50
Refund due for double payment of court costs	9.50
Due State Treasurer	15,788.09

CREDIT BALANCES HELD BY DEPT.
COVERING ABOVE:

Balance Lewis State Bank, June 30, 1928	\$15,760.22
Cash on hand and deposits after June 30, 1928	361.95
Due by Department, unaccounted for.....	9.42
	<hr/>
	\$16,131.59 \$16,131.59

COUNTY JUDGES ACCOUNTS—Balances due to close accounts:

Checks not paid account of banks closing while in transit for collection and still held by office and unpaid:

Judge, Broward County on Ft. Lauderdale Bank & Trust Company	\$ 44.00
Judge, Dade County, on Southern Bank & Trust Company	511.00
Judge, Levy County, on Bank Levy Co.	934.00
Judge, Washington County (paid after June 30, 1928	49.00

Total of unpaid check on hand June 30, 1928	\$ 1,538.00
Unpaid balances from Judges, other than unpaid checks, see itemized statement in report	3,650.25
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 5,188.29

SUMMARY

Paid Treasurer on this year's collections	\$295,200.00
Due Treasurer close of fiscal year (see balance on hand, etc.)	15,788.09
Due from Judges on sales	5,188.29
	<hr/>
	\$316,176.38

Less unpaid balances from Judges, carried forward from last year	488.05
	<hr/>
	\$315,688.33
Less balance on hand last year due State Treasurer	37.02
	<hr/>
Total sales for State for fiscal year	\$315,651.31

AMOUNTS DUE SCHOOL FUNDS OF VARIOUS COUNTIES FROM LICENSE SALES

(Under Chapter 11838, Acts 1927)

All remittances due the County School Funds had been made in accordance with the provisions of the which had not been made to June 30, 1928. Remittances have been made and balances due are shown above chapters, except the amounts shown below, according to the sale of licenses in each County, and not according to the amounts remitted to the Department, except in the case of Dixie and Okeechobee Counties, where remittances have been made based upon amounts paid by the respective Judges.

The Department advises that the balances shown below as due were remitted shortly after June 30th:

Alachua	\$ 93.00	Liberty	15.00
Baker	16.00	Madison	41.00
Bay	88.00	Manatee	55.00
Bradford	15.00	Marion	116.00
Brevard	99.00	Martin	16.00
Broward	17.00	Nassau	24.00
Calhoun	66.00	Okaloosa	118.00
Charlotte	20.00	Orange	208.00
Citrus	222.00	Osceola	72.00
Clay	13.00	Palm Beach	82.00
Collier	113.00	Pasco	39.00
Columbia	14.00	Pinellas	56.00
Dade	121.00	Polk	500.00
DeSoto	83.00	Putnam	59.00
Duval	487.00	St. Johns	25.00
Escambia	25.00	St. Lucie	25.00
Flagler	32.00	Santa Rosa	12.00
Franklin	5.00	Sarasota	45.00
Gadsden	7.00	Seminole	45.00
Glades	119.00	Sumter	49.00
Gulf	366.00	Suwannee	31.00
Gilchrist	3.00	Taylor	73.00
Hamilton	22.00	Union	4.00
Hardee	17.00	Volusia	125.00
Hendry	70.00	Wakulla	283.00
Hernando	38.00	Walton	49.00
Highlands	40.00	Washington	82.00
Hillsborough	347.00		
Holmes	25.00	Total balances due	\$5,570.00
Indian River	19.00	Dixie	160.00*
Jackson	39.00	Okeechobee	224.00*
Jefferson	35.00		
Lafayette	25.00		\$5,954.00
Lake	366.00	*Will be due Dixie and Okeechobee School Funds when unpaid balances from Judges are received.	
Lee	52.00		
Leon	154.00		
Levy	48.00		

Auditor's Note: Department's records show remitted Washington County School Fund balance due of \$83.00 after June 30, 1928. This was an error in figuring distribution of F. licenses. Amount should have been \$82.00. Remitted Walton County after June 30, 1928, \$51.00—should have been \$49.00.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS—STATE GAME FUND

RECEIPTS:

Balance in Treasury, July 1, 1926	\$ 35,974.16
Deposited in Treasury	195,898.40
	<hr/>
	\$231,872.56

DISBURSEMENTS:

(By Comptroller's Warrants)

Salaries, Commissioners, Asst. Comm'r. and Deputy Commissioners	\$106,679.37	
Salaries—Office	10,545.00	
Office Supplies and Printing	4,558.42	
Travel Expenses — Deputies and Asst. Comm'r.	61,482.14	
Travel Expense — Comm- sioner	1,903.63	
Field Equipment	3,636.56	
Game for Restocking	5,392.92	
Motion Pictures	2,055.54	
Loan Paid (loan from Gen- eral Revenue fund for or- ganizing and operating Departm't when created)	200.00	231,231.58
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury June 30, 1927	\$	640.98

RECEIPTS:

Balance in Treasury July 1, 1927	\$ 640.98
Deposited in Treasury	295,200.00
Transfer from General In- specti Fund, Comptroller Warrant No. 118544	20,000.00
Cancelled Warrant, Oct. 10, 1927	66.96
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	\$315,907.94

DISBURSEMENTS:

(By Comptroller of Warrants)

Salary of Commissioner	\$ 5,500.00	
Travel Expense Commissioner and Conservation Commissioner	4,485.76	
Salary—Office	14,317.41	
Office Supplies and Printing	10,709.74	
Office Equipment	771.58	
Salary of Deputies & Asst. Comm'r.	122,051.15	
Field Travel Expense (Deputy & Asst. Comm'r.)	64,467.91	
Field Equipment	2,933.79	
Field Maint. Equipment	860.07	
Restocking and Transferring Game	7,111.22	
*Restocking & Transferring Fish	4,569.59	
Vermin Control—Game	1,065.76	
Vermin Control—Fish	472.00	
**Educational (Fair Exhibits, Motion Pictures, etc.)	10,246.28	
Miscellaneous	8,291.25	
***Paid to School Fund	55,744.00	313,597.91
Balance in Treasury June 30, 1928		\$ 2,310.03

Respectfully submitted,

B. A. LUNING,
S. A. WAHNISH,
Auditors.

NOTES:—

*This amount does not include salary and travel of Superintendent of Fisheries, nor sums spent on fish hatcheries and Miccosukee dam.

**This amount includes the cost of approximately 10,000 feet of film, the salaries and expense of two men in the field to make the same, a moving picture machine for operation, the expense of the deputy who organized bird study clubs in schools and expense at fairs.

***The sum of \$5,954 additonal, was remitted to the School and shortly after the close of the fiscal year, bringing the total to \$61,698.00 remitted to schools from the revenue derived from the sale of licenses during the fiscal year.